

# **BNY Mellon High Yield Fund**

## Prospectus | May 1, 2025

Class	Ticker
A	DPLTX
C	PTHIX
I	DLHRX

As with all mutual funds, the Securities and Exchange Commission has not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

**BNY MELLON FAMILY OF FUNDS**

**Long-Term Funds Other Than Municipal Bond Funds**

*Supplement to Current Prospectus of Funds Offering Class A and/or Class C Shares*

**The following information supplements and supersedes any contrary information contained in the section of the fund's Prospectus entitled "Appendix — Sales Charge Reductions and Waivers Available from Certain Financial Intermediaries — Robert W. Baird & Co. (Baird)":**

**Robert W. Baird & Co. (Baird)**

Effective January 1, 2026, shareholders purchasing fund shares through a Baird platform or account will only be eligible for the following sales charge waivers (front-end sales charge waivers and CDSC waivers) and discounts, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI.

**Front-End Sales Charge Discounts Available at Baird: Breakpoints and/or Rights of Accumulations**

- *Breakpoints* as described in this prospectus.
- *Rights of accumulation*, which entitle shareholders to breakpoint discounts, will be automatically calculated based on the aggregated holdings of shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds held by accounts within the purchaser's household at Baird. Eligible shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds not held at Baird may be included in the rights of accumulations calculation only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial advisor about such shares.
- *Letters of Intent (LOI)* allow for breakpoint discounts based on anticipated purchases of shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds through Baird, over a 13-month period of time.

**Front-End Sales Charge Waivers on Class A Shares Available at Baird**

- shares purchased through reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions when purchasing shares of the same fund
- shares purchased by employees and registered representatives of Baird or its affiliates and their family members as designated by Baird
- shares purchased within 90 days following a redemption of shares of a fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds, provided (1) the redemption and purchase occur within the purchaser's Baird household and (2) the redeemed shares were subject to a front-end sales charge or CDSC (known as rights of reinstatement)
- a shareholder in the fund's Class C shares will have their shares converted at net asset value to Class A shares of the same fund if the shares are no longer subject to a CDSC and the conversion is in line with the policies and procedures of Baird
- employer-sponsored retirement plans or charitable accounts in a transactional brokerage account at Baird, including 401(k) plans, 457 plans, employer-sponsored 403(b) plans, profit sharing and money purchase pension plans and defined benefit plans. For purposes of this provision, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP IRAs, Simple IRAs or SAR-SEPs

**CDSC Waivers on Class A and C Shares Available at Baird**

- shares sold due to death or disability of the shareholder
- shares sold as part of a systematic withdrawal plan as described in this prospectus

- shares bought due to returns of excess contributions from an IRA Account
- shares sold as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts due to the shareholder reaching the qualified age based on applicable Internal Revenue Service regulations as described in this prospectus
- shares sold to pay Baird fees but only if the transaction is initiated by Baird
- shares acquired through a right of reinstatement

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BNYMLTF-STK0226

February 2, 2026

**BNY MELLON INVESTMENT FUNDS III  
- BNY Mellon High Yield Fund**

**Supplement to Current Summary Prospectus and Prospectus**

Alcentra NY, LLC, the fund's sub-adviser, has changed its name to BSP NY LLC. Accordingly, effective immediately, all references to Alcentra NY, LLC and Alcentra in the Summary Prospectus and Prospectus are replaced with BSP NY LLC and BSP, respectively.

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**BNY MELLON FAMILY OF FUNDS**  
**Long-Term Funds**

*Supplement to Current Prospectus of Long-Term Funds Offering Class A and/or Class C Shares*

**The following information supplements the information contained in the section of the fund's Prospectus entitled "Appendix — Sales Charge Reductions and Waivers Available from Certain Financial Intermediaries":**

**Wells Fargo Clearing Services, LLC and Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network, LLC (collectively, "Wells Fargo Advisors")**

*Wells Fargo Clearing Services, LLC operates a First Clearing business, but the following rules are not intended to include First Clearing firms.*

Effective April 1, 2026, clients of Wells Fargo Advisors purchasing fund shares through Wells Fargo Advisors are eligible for the following sales charge discounts (also referred to as "breakpoints") and waivers, which can differ from those described elsewhere in the prospectus or the Statement of Additional Information (SAI). In all instances, it is the investor's responsibility to inform Wells Fargo Advisors at the time of purchase of any relationship, holdings, or other facts qualifying the investor for discounts or waivers. Wells Fargo Advisors can ask for documentation supporting the qualification.

**Wells Fargo Advisors Class A share front-end sales charge waivers information.**

Wells Fargo Advisors clients purchasing or converting to Class A shares of the fund in a Wells Fargo Advisors brokerage account are entitled to a waiver of the front-end load in the following circumstances:

- Wells Fargo Advisors employee and employee-related accounts according to Wells Fargo Advisors' employee account linking rules. Legacy accounts and positions receiving affiliate discounts prior to the effective date will continue to receive discounts. Going forward employees of affiliate businesses will not be offered Class A shares at NAV.
- Shares purchased through reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions when purchasing shares of the same fund.

WellsTrade, the firm's online self-directed brokerage account, generally offers no-load share classes but there could be instances where a Class A share is offered without a front-end sales charge.

Unless specifically described above, other front-end load waivers are not available on fund purchases through Wells Fargo Advisors.

**Wells Fargo Advisors Contingent Deferred Sales Charge information.**

- Contingent deferred sales charges (CDSC) imposed on fund redemptions will not be rebated based on future purchases.

**Wells Fargo Advisors Class A front-end load discounts**

Wells Fargo Advisors clients purchasing Class A shares of the fund through Wells Fargo Advisors brokerage accounts will follow the following aggregation rules for breakpoint discounts:

- Effective April 1, 2026, SEP or SIMPLE IRAs will not be aggregated as a group plan. They will aggregate with the client's personal accounts based on Social Security Number. Previously established SEP and SIMPLE IRAs may still be aggregated as a group plan.
- Effective April 1, 2026, employer-sponsored retirement plan (e.g., 401(k) plans, 457 plans, employer-sponsored 403(b) plans, profit sharing and money purchase pension plans and defined benefit plans) accounts will aggregate with other plan accounts under the same Tax ID and will not be aggregated with other retirement plan accounts under a different Tax ID

or personal accounts. For purposes of this provision, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs, SAR-SEPs or Keogh plans.

- Gift of shares will not be considered when determining breakpoint discounts.

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**The following information supplements and supersedes any contrary information contained in the section of the fund's Prospectus entitled "Appendix — Sales Charge Reductions and Waivers Available from Certain Financial Intermediaries":**

### **Merrill**

Purchases or sales of front-end (for example, Class A) or level-load (for example, Class C) mutual fund shares through a Merrill platform or account will be eligible only for the following sales load waivers (front-end, contingent deferred, or back-end waivers) and discounts, which differ from those disclosed elsewhere in the fund's prospectus. Purchasers will have to buy mutual fund shares directly from the mutual fund company or through another intermediary to be eligible for waivers or discounts not listed below.

It is the client's responsibility to notify Merrill at the time of purchase or sale of any relationship or other facts that qualify the transaction for a waiver or discount. A Merrill representative may ask for reasonable documentation of such facts and Merrill may condition the granting of a waiver or discount on the timely receipt of such documentation.

Additional information on waivers, discounts, and share class exchanges is available in the Merrill Sales Load Waiver and Discounts Supplement (the "Merrill SLWD Supplement") and in the Mutual Fund Investing at Merrill pamphlet at [ml.com/funds](http://ml.com/funds). Clients are encouraged to review these documents and speak with their financial advisor to determine whether a transaction is eligible for a waiver or discount.

### **Front-end Load Waivers Available at Merrill**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through a Merrill platform or account are eligible only for the following sales load waivers, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in the fund's prospectus or the SAI. Such shareholders may purchase Class A shares at NAV without payment of a sales load as follows:

- shares of mutual funds available for purchase by employer-sponsored retirement, deferred compensation, and employee benefit plans (including health savings accounts) and trusts used to fund those plans provided that the shares are not held in a commission-based brokerage account and shares are held for the benefit of the plan. For purposes of this provision, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP IRAs, Simple IRAs, SAR-SEPs or Keogh plans
- shares purchased through a Merrill investment advisory program
- brokerage class shares exchanged from advisory class shares due to the holdings moving from a Merrill investment advisory program to a Merrill brokerage account
- shares purchased through the Merrill Edge Self-Directed platform
- shares purchased through the systematic reinvestment of capital gains distributions and dividend reinvestment when purchasing shares of the same mutual fund in the same account
- shares exchanged from level-load shares to front-end load shares of the same mutual fund in accordance with the description in the Merrill SLWD Supplement
- shares purchased by eligible employees of Merrill or its affiliates and their family members who purchase shares in accounts within the employee's Merrill Household (as defined in the Merrill SLWD Supplement)
- shares purchased by eligible persons associated with the fund as defined in the fund's prospectus (e.g., the fund's officers or trustees)

- shares purchased from the proceeds of a mutual fund redemption in front-end load shares, provided (1) the repurchase is in a mutual fund within the same fund family, (2) the repurchase occurs within 90 calendar days from the redemption trade date, and (3) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account (known as Rights of Reinstatement). Automated transactions (i.e., systematic purchases and withdrawals) and purchases made after shares are automatically sold to pay Merrill's account maintenance fees are not eligible for Rights of Reinstatement

**Contingent Deferred Sales Charge (CDSC) Waivers on Front-end (Class A) and Level-Load (Class C) Shares Available at Merrill**

Fund shares purchased through a Merrill platform or account are eligible only for the following CDSC waivers, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in the fund's prospectus or the SAI:

- shares sold due to the client's death or disability (as defined by Internal Revenue Code Section 22(e)(3))
- shares sold pursuant to a systematic withdrawal program subject to Merrill's maximum systematic withdrawal limits, as described in the Merrill SLWD Supplement
- shares sold due to return of excess contributions from an IRA account
- shares sold as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts due to the investor reaching the qualified age based on applicable IRS regulation
- front-end or level-load shares held in commission-based, non-taxable retirement brokerage accounts (e.g., traditional, Roth, rollover, SEP IRAs, Simple IRAs, SAR-SEPs or Keogh plans) that are transferred to fee-based accounts or platforms and exchanged for a lower cost share class of the same mutual fund.

**Front-end Load Discounts Available at Merrill: Breakpoints, Rights of Accumulation & Letters of Intent**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through a Merrill platform or account are eligible only for the following sales charge reductions (i.e., discounts), which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in the fund's prospectus or the SAI. Such shareholders can reduce their initial sales charge in the following ways:

- *Breakpoint discounts*, as described in the fund's prospectus, where the sales load is at or below the maximum sales load that Merrill permits to be assessed to a front-end load purchase, as described in the Merrill SLWD Supplement.
- *Rights of accumulation (ROA)*, as described in the Merrill SLWD Supplement, which entitle clients to breakpoint discounts based on the aggregated holdings of mutual fund family assets held in accounts in their Merrill Household. *On or about May 1, 2026, assets not held at Merrill will no longer be included in the ROA calculation. For more detail on the timing and calculation, please refer to the Merrill SLWD Supplement.*
- *Letters of Intent (LOI)*, which allow for breakpoint discounts on eligible new purchases based on anticipated future eligible purchases within a fund family at Merrill, in accounts within your Merrill Household, as further described in the Merrill SLWD Supplement. *On or about May 1, 2026, Merrill will no longer accept new LOIs. For more detail on the timing, please refer to the Merrill SLWD Supplement.*

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# Contents

## Fund Summary

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Fund Summary	1
--------------	---

## Fund Details

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Goal and Approach	7
Investment Risks	8
Management	12

## Shareholder Guide

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Choosing a Share Class	14
Buying and Selling Shares	17
General Policies	20
Distributions and Taxes	22
Services for Fund Investors	22

## Financial Highlights

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Financial Highlights	25
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## Appendix

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Appendix	A-1
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## For More Information

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*See back cover.*

# Fund Summary

## Investment Objective

The fund seeks to maximize total return, consisting of capital appreciation and current income.

## Fees and Expenses

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the fund. **You may pay other fees, such as brokerage commissions and other fees to financial intermediaries, which are not reflected in the table and examples below.** You may qualify for sales charge discounts if you and your family invest, or agree to invest in the future, at least \$50,000 in the fund or shares of other funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds that are subject to a sales charge. More information about sales charges, including these and other discounts and waivers, is available from your financial professional and in the Shareholder Guide section beginning on page 14 of the prospectus, in the Appendix on page A-1 of the prospectus and in the How to Buy Shares section and the Additional Information About How to Buy Shares section beginning on page II-1 and page III-1, respectively, of the fund's Statement of Additional Information.

<b>Shareholder Fees</b> (fees paid directly from your investment)	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class C</b>	<b>Class I</b>
Maximum sales charge (load) imposed on purchases <i>(as a percentage of offering price)</i>	4.50	none	none
Maximum deferred sales charge (load) <i>(as a percentage of lower of purchase or sale price)</i>	none*	1.00	none

<b>Annual Fund Operating Expenses</b> (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class C</b>	<b>Class I</b>
Management fees	.70	.70	.70
Distribution and/or service (12b-1) fees	.25	1.00	none
Other expenses	.01	.01	.01
Total annual fund operating expenses	.96	1.71	.71
Fee waiver <sup>+</sup>	(.01)	(.01)	(.01)
Total annual fund operating expenses (after fee waiver)	.95	1.70	.70

\* Class A shares bought without an initial sales charge as part of an investment of \$1 million or more may be charged a deferred sales charge of 1.00% if redeemed within one year.

<sup>+</sup> The fund's investment adviser, BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc., has agreed in its investment management agreement with the fund to: (1) pay all of the fund's expenses, except management fees, Rule 12b-1 fees, interest expense, brokerage commissions, commitment fees on borrowings, extraordinary expenses not incurred in the ordinary course of the fund's business, and the fees and expenses of the non-interested board members and their counsel, and (2) reduce its fees pursuant to the investment management agreement in an amount equal to the fund's allocable portion of the fees and expenses of the non-interested board members and their counsel (in the amount of .01% for the past fiscal year). These provisions in the investment management agreement may not be amended without the approval of the fund's shareholders.

## Example

The Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the fund for the time periods indicated. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the fund's operating expenses remain the same. The Example is based on net operating expenses, which reflect the contractual undertaking by BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Class A (with or without redemption at end of period)	\$543	\$739	\$952	\$1,564
Class C (with redemption at end of period)	\$273	\$536	\$923	\$2,009
Class C (without redemption at end of period)	\$173	\$536	\$923	\$2,009
Class I (with or without redemption at end of period)	\$72	\$224	\$390	\$871

## Portfolio Turnover

The fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the fund's portfolio turnover rate was 114.37% of the average value of its portfolio.

## Principal Investment Strategy

To pursue its goal, the fund normally invests at least 80% of its net assets, plus any borrowings for investment purposes, in fixed-income securities that, at the time of purchase, are rated below investment grade ("high yield" or "junk" bonds) or are the unrated equivalent as determined by Alcentra NY, LLC, the fund's sub-adviser. The fund's portfolio may include various types of fixed-income securities, such as corporate bonds and notes, mortgage-related securities, asset-backed securities, floating rate loans (limited to up to 20% of the fund's net assets) and other floating rate securities, zero coupon securities, convertible securities, preferred stock and other debt instruments of U.S. and foreign issuers.

In choosing securities for the fund, the fund's sub-adviser seeks to capture the higher yields offered by junk bonds, while managing credit risk and the volatility caused by interest rate movements. The fund's investment process involves a "top down" approach to security selection. The sub-adviser looks at a variety of factors when assessing a potential investment, including the state of the industry or sector, the company's financial strength, and the company's management. The sub-adviser also looks for companies that are underleveraged, have positive free cash flow, and are self-financing. There are no restrictions on the dollar-weighted average maturity or average effective duration of the fund's portfolio or on the maturities or durations of the individual fixed-income securities the fund may purchase. A bond's maturity is the length of time until the principal must be fully repaid with interest. Duration is an indication of an investment's "interest rate risk," or how sensitive a bond or the fund's portfolio may be to changes in interest rates.

The fund also may invest in collateralized debt obligations (CDOs), which are a type of asset-backed security and include collateralized bond obligations (CBOs) and collateralized loan obligations (CLOs) and other similarly structured securities. CDOs generally issue separate series or "tranches" which vary with respect to collateral, risk and yield. To enhance current income, the fund may engage in a series of purchase and sale contracts or forward roll transactions in which the fund sells a mortgage-related security, for example, to a financial institution and simultaneously agrees to purchase a similar security from the institution at a later date at an agreed upon price. The fund also may make forward commitments in which the fund agrees to buy or sell a security in the future at a price agreed upon today.

The fund typically will sell a security if the fund's sub-adviser believes it is overvalued from a valuation standpoint, another sector becomes relatively more attractive, and/or it expects fundamentals to deteriorate. In addition, at times, the fund may engage in active and frequent trading, which will increase portfolio turnover.

## Principal Risks

An investment in the fund is not a bank deposit. It is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or any other government agency. It is not a complete investment program. The fund's share price fluctuates, sometimes dramatically, which means you could lose money.

- *Fixed-income market risk:* The market value of a fixed-income security may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a particular company, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the outlook for corporate earnings, changes in interest or currency rates or adverse investor sentiment generally. The fixed-income securities market can be susceptible to increases in volatility and decreases in liquidity. Liquidity can decline unpredictably in response to overall economic conditions or credit tightening. Increases in volatility and decreases in liquidity may be caused by a rise in interest rates (or the expectation of a rise in interest rates). An unexpected increase in fund redemption requests, including requests from shareholders who may own a significant percentage of the fund's shares, which may be triggered by market turmoil or an increase in interest rates, could cause the fund to sell its holdings at a loss or at undesirable prices and adversely affect the fund's share price and increase the fund's liquidity risk, fund expenses and/or taxable distributions. Federal Reserve policy in response to market conditions, including with respect to interest rates, may adversely affect the value, volatility and liquidity of

dividend and interest paying securities. Policy and legislative changes worldwide are affecting many aspects of financial regulation. The impact of these changes on the markets and the practical implications for market participants may not be fully known for some time.

- *Interest rate risk:* Prices of bonds and other fixed rate fixed-income securities tend to move inversely with changes in interest rates. Typically, a rise in rates will adversely affect fixed-income securities and, accordingly, will cause the value of the fund's investments in these securities to decline. A wide variety of market factors can cause interest rates to rise, including central bank monetary policy, rising inflation and changes in general economic conditions. It is difficult to predict the pace at which central banks or monetary authorities may increase (or decrease) interest rates or the timing, frequency, or magnitude of such changes. During periods of very low interest rates, which occur from time to time due to market forces or actions of governments and/or their central banks, including the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in the U.S., the fund may be subject to a greater risk of principal decline from rising interest rates. When interest rates fall, the fund's investments in new securities may be at lower yields and may reduce the fund's income. Changing interest rates may have unpredictable effects on markets, may result in heightened market volatility and may detract from fund performance. The magnitude of these fluctuations in the market price of fixed-income securities is generally greater for securities with longer effective maturities and durations because such instruments do not mature, reset interest rates or become callable for longer periods of time. Unlike investment grade bonds, however, the prices of high yield ("junk") bonds may fluctuate unpredictably and not necessarily inversely with changes in interest rates. Interest rate changes may have different effects on the values of mortgage-related securities because of prepayment and extension risks. In addition, the rates on floating rate instruments adjust periodically with changes in market interest rates. Although these instruments are generally less sensitive to interest rate changes than fixed rate instruments, the value of floating rate loans and other floating rate securities may decline if their interest rates do not rise as quickly, or as much, as general interest rates.
- *Credit risk:* Failure of an issuer of a security to make timely interest or principal payments when due, or a decline or perception of a decline in the credit quality of the security, can cause the security's price to fall. The lower a security's credit rating, the greater the chance that the issuer of the security will default or fail to meet its payment obligations.
- *High yield securities risk:* High yield ("junk") securities involve greater credit risk, including the risk of default, than investment grade securities, and are considered predominantly speculative with respect to the issuer's ability to make principal and interest payments. These securities are especially sensitive to adverse changes in general economic conditions, to changes in the financial condition of their issuers and to price fluctuation in response to changes in interest rates. During periods of economic downturn or rising interest rates, issuers of below investment grade securities may experience financial stress that could adversely affect their ability to make payments of principal and interest and increase the possibility of default.
- *Mortgage-related securities risk:* Mortgage-related securities are subject to credit, prepayment and extension risk, and may be more volatile, less liquid and more difficult to price accurately than more traditional debt securities. The fund is subject to the credit risk associated with these securities, including the market's perception of the creditworthiness of the issuing federal agency, as well as the credit quality of the underlying assets. Although certain mortgage-related securities are guaranteed as to the timely payment of interest and principal by a third party (such as a U.S. government agency or instrumentality with respect to government-related mortgage securities) the market prices for such securities are not guaranteed and will fluctuate. As with other interest-bearing securities, the prices of certain mortgage-related securities are inversely affected by changes in interest rates. However, although the value of a mortgage-related security may decline when interest rates rise, the converse is not necessarily true, since in periods of declining interest rates the mortgages underlying the security are more likely to be prepaid causing the fund to purchase new securities at current market rates, which usually will be lower. The loss of higher yielding underlying mortgages and the reinvestment of proceeds at lower interest rates, known as prepayment risk, can reduce the fund's potential price gain in response to falling interest rates, reduce the fund's yield and/or cause the fund's share price to fall. When interest rates rise, the effective duration of the fund's mortgage-related and other asset-backed securities may lengthen due to a drop in prepayments of the underlying mortgages or other assets. This is known as extension risk and would increase the fund's sensitivity to rising interest rates and its potential for price declines.
- *Foreign investment risk:* To the extent the fund invests in foreign securities, the fund's performance will be influenced by political, social and economic factors affecting investments in foreign issuers. Special risks associated with investments in foreign issuers include exposure to currency fluctuations, less liquidity, less developed or less efficient trading markets, lack of comprehensive company information, political and economic instability and differing auditing and legal standards.
- *Market risk:* The value of the securities in which the fund invests may be affected by political, regulatory, economic and social developments, and developments that impact specific economic sectors, industries or segments of the market. In addition, turbulence in financial markets and reduced liquidity in equity, credit and/or fixed-income markets may negatively affect many issuers, which could adversely affect the fund. Global economies and financial

markets are becoming increasingly interconnected, and conditions and events in one country, region or financial market may adversely impact issuers in a different country, region or financial market. These risks may be magnified if certain events or developments adversely interrupt the global supply chain; in these and other circumstances, such risks might affect companies world-wide.

- *Liquidity risk:* When there is little or no active trading market for specific types of securities, it can become more difficult to sell the securities in a timely manner at or near their perceived value. In such a market, the value of such securities and the fund's share price may fall dramatically. Investments that are illiquid or that trade in lower volumes may be more difficult to value. The market for below investment grade securities may be less liquid and therefore these securities may be harder to value or sell at an acceptable price, especially during times of market volatility or decline. Investments in foreign securities tend to have greater exposure to liquidity risk than domestic securities. No active trading market may exist for some of the floating rate loans in which the fund invests and certain loans may be subject to restrictions on resale. Because some floating rate loans that the fund invests in may have a more limited secondary market, liquidity risk is more pronounced for the fund than for mutual funds that invest primarily in other types of fixed-income instruments or equity securities.
- *Floating rate loan risk:* Unlike publicly traded common stocks which trade on national exchanges, there is no central market or exchange for loans to trade. Loans trade in an over-the-counter market, and confirmation and settlement, which are effected through standardized procedures and documentation, may take significantly longer than seven days to complete. The lack of an active trading market for certain floating rate loans may impair the ability of the fund to realize full value in the event of the need to sell a floating rate loan and may make it difficult to value such loans. There may be less readily available, reliable information about certain floating rate loans than is the case for many other types of securities, and the fund's portfolio managers may be required to rely primarily on their own evaluation of a borrower's credit quality rather than on any available independent sources. The value of collateral, if any, securing a floating rate loan can decline, and may be insufficient to meet the issuer's obligations in the event of non-payment of scheduled interest or principal or may be difficult to readily liquidate. The floating rate loans in which the fund may invest typically will be below investment grade quality and, like other below investment grade securities, are inherently speculative. As a result, the risks associated with such floating rate loans are similar to the risks of below investment grade securities, although senior loans are typically senior and secured in contrast to other below investment grade securities, which are often subordinated and unsecured.
- *CDOs risk:* The risks of an investment in a CDO, including a CBO or CLO, depend largely on the type of the collateral and the tranche of the CDO in which the fund invests. CDO tranches can experience substantial losses due to actual defaults, increased sensitivity to defaults due to collateral default, market anticipation of defaults, as well as aversion to CDO securities as an asset class. In addition to the normal risks associated with credit-related securities discussed elsewhere in this prospectus (e.g., interest rate risk and default risk), investments in CDOs may be more volatile, less liquid and more difficult to price than other types of investments.
- *Issuer risk:* A security's market value may decline for a number of reasons which directly relate to the issuer, or to factors that affect the issuer's industry.
- *Portfolio turnover risk:* The fund may engage in short-term trading, which could produce higher transaction costs and taxable distributions, and lower the fund's after-tax performance.
- *Management risk:* The investment process used by the fund's sub-adviser could fail to achieve the fund's investment goal and cause your fund investment to lose value.

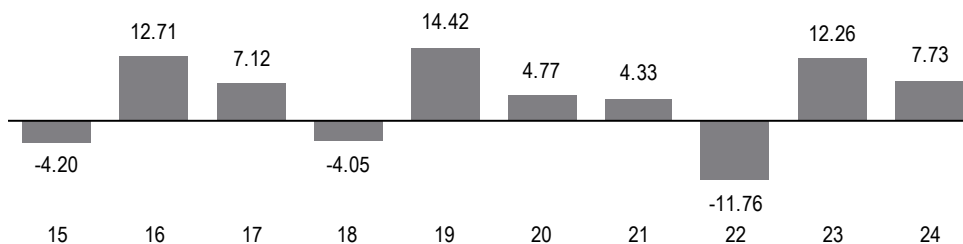
## Performance

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The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the fund. The bar chart shows changes in the performance of the fund's Class A shares from year to year. Sales charges, if any, are not reflected in the bar chart, and, if those charges were included, returns would have been less than those shown. The table compares the average annual total returns of the fund's shares to those of the ICE BofA U.S. High Yield Constrained Index and the Bloomberg U.S. Universal Index, a broad measure of market performance. The fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily an indication of how the fund will perform in the future. Performance for each share class will vary due to differences in expenses. More recent performance information may be available at [www.bny.com/investments](http://www.bny.com/investments).

## Year-by-Year Total Returns as of 12/31 each year (%)

Class A



During the periods shown in the chart:

**Best Quarter**

2020, Q2: 8.98

**Worst Quarter**

2020, Q1: (12.63)

After-tax performance is shown only for Class A shares. After-tax performance of the fund's other share classes will vary. After-tax returns are calculated using the historical highest individual federal marginal income tax rates, and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Actual after-tax returns depend on the investor's tax situation and may differ from those shown, and the after-tax returns shown are not relevant to investors who hold their shares through U.S. tax-deferred arrangements such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts. Returns after taxes on distributions and sale of fund shares may be higher than returns before taxes or returns after taxes on distributions due to an assumed tax benefit from losses on a sale of the fund's shares at the end of the period.

## Average Annual Total Returns (as of 12/31/24)

Class	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years
Class A returns before taxes	2.91%	2.18%	3.53%
Class A returns after taxes on distributions	-0.01%	-0.22%	1.10%
Class A returns after taxes on distributions and sale of fund shares	1.66%	0.59%	1.58%
Class C returns before taxes	5.91%	2.36%	3.23%
Class I returns before taxes	8.18%	3.38%	4.28%
Bloomberg U.S. Universal Index* reflects no deductions for fees, expenses or taxes	2.04%	0.06%	1.73%
ICE BofA U.S. High Yield Constrained Index reflects no deductions for fees, expenses or taxes	8.20%	4.03%	5.08%

\* In accordance with regulatory changes requiring the fund's primary benchmark to represent the overall applicable market, the fund's primary prospectus benchmark changed to the indicated benchmark effective December 31, 2024.

## Portfolio Management

The fund's investment adviser is BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. (BNYIA). BNYIA has engaged Alcentra NY, LLC (Alcentra) to serve as the fund's sub-adviser.

Chris Barris and Kevin Cronk, CFA are the fund's primary portfolio managers, positions they have held since October 2010 and September 2012, respectively. Mr. Barris is a Portfolio Manager, U.S. Liquids at Alcentra. Mr. Cronk is a Portfolio Manager, U.S. Liquids at Alcentra.

## Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

In general, the fund's minimum initial investment is \$1,000 and the minimum subsequent investment is \$100. You may sell (redeem) your shares on any business day by calling 1-800-373-9387 (inside the U.S. only) or by visiting [www.bny.com/investments](http://www.bny.com/investments). If you invested in the fund through a third party, such as a bank, broker-dealer or financial adviser, or through a Retirement Plan (as defined below), you may mail your request to sell shares to BNY Institutional Services, P.O. Box 534442, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15253-4442. If you invested directly through the fund, you may mail your request to sell shares to BNY Shareholder Services, P.O. Box 534434, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15253-4434. If you are an Institutional Direct accountholder, please contact your BNY relationship manager for instructions.

Retirement Plans include qualified or non-qualified employee benefit plans, such as 401(k), 403(b)(7), Keogh, pension, profit-sharing and other deferred compensation plans, whether established by corporations, partnerships, sole proprietorships, non-profit entities, trade or labor unions, or state and local governments, but do not include IRAs (including, without limitation, traditional IRAs, Roth IRAs, Coverdell Education Savings Accounts, IRA "Rollover Accounts" or IRAs set up under Simplified Employee Pension Plans (SEP-IRAs), Salary Reduction Simplified Employee Pension Plans (SARSEPs) or Savings Incentive Match Plans for Employees (SIMPLE IRAs)).

## **Tax Information**

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The fund's distributions are taxable as ordinary income or capital gains, except when your investment is through an IRA, Retirement Plan or other U.S. tax-advantaged investment plan (in which case you may be taxed upon withdrawal of your investment from such account).

## **Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries**

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If you purchase shares through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank), the fund's distributor and its related companies may pay the intermediary for the sale of fund shares and related services. To the extent that the intermediary may receive lesser or no payments in connection with the sale of other investments, the payments from the fund's distributor and its related companies may create a potential conflict of interest by influencing the broker-dealer or other intermediary and your financial representative to recommend the fund over the other investments. This potential conflict of interest may be addressed by policies, procedures or practices adopted by the financial intermediary. As there may be many different policies, procedures or practices adopted by different intermediaries to address the manner in which compensation is earned through the sale of investments or the provision of related services, the compensation rates and other payment arrangements that may apply to a financial intermediary and its representatives may vary by intermediary. Ask your financial representative or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

# Fund Details

## Goal and Approach

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The fund seeks to maximize total return, consisting of capital appreciation and current income. To pursue its goal, the fund normally invests at least 80% of its net assets, plus any borrowings for investment purposes, in fixed-income securities that, at the time of purchase, are rated below investment grade ("high yield" or "junk" bonds) or are the unrated equivalent as determined by Alcentra NY, LLC, the fund's sub-adviser. The fund's policy with respect to the investment of at least 80% of its net assets may be changed by the fund's board upon 60 days' prior notice to shareholders. The fund's portfolio may include various types of fixed-income securities, such as corporate bonds and notes, mortgage-related securities, asset-backed securities, floating rate loans (limited to up to 20% of the fund's net assets) and other floating rate securities, zero coupon securities, convertible securities, preferred stock and other debt instruments of U.S. and foreign issuers.

High yield bonds are securities rated at the time of purchase BB or Ba and below by credit rating agencies such as Standard & Poor's Ratings Group or Moody's Investors Service, Inc. or the unrated equivalent as determined by the fund's sub-adviser. Because the issuers of high yield securities may be at an early stage of development or may have been unable to repay past debts, these bonds typically must offer higher yields than investment grade bonds to compensate investors for greater credit risk.

In choosing securities for the fund, the fund's sub-adviser seeks to capture the higher yields offered by junk bonds, while managing credit risk and the volatility caused by interest rate movements. The fund's investment process involves a "top down" approach to security selection. The sub-adviser looks at a variety of factors when assessing a potential investment, including the state of the industry or sector, the company's financial strength, and the company's management. The sub-adviser also looks for companies that are underleveraged, have positive free cash flow, and are self-financing. There are no restrictions on the dollar-weighted average maturity or average effective duration of the fund's portfolio or on the maturities or durations of the individual fixed-income securities the fund may purchase. A bond's maturity is the length of time until the principal must be fully repaid with interest. Dollar-weighted average maturity is an average of the stated maturities of the securities held by the fund, based on their dollar-weighted proportions in the fund. Duration is an indication of an investment's "interest rate risk," or how sensitive a bond or the fund's portfolio may be to changes in interest rates. Generally, the longer a bond's duration, the more likely it is to react to interest rate fluctuations and the greater its long-term risk/return potential. The change in the value of a fixed-income security or portfolio can be approximated by multiplying its duration by a change in interest rates. For example, the market price of a fixed-income security with a duration of three years would be expected to decline 3% if interest rates rose 1%. Conversely, the market price of the same security would be expected to increase 3% if interest rates fell 1%. In calculating average effective duration, the fund may treat a security that can be repurchased by its issuer on an earlier date (known as a "call date") as maturing on the call date rather than on its stated maturity date.

The fund's investments in floating rate loans are generally focused on senior secured loans but also may include second lien loans, senior unsecured loans, subordinated loans, and fixed rate loans with respect to which the fund has entered into derivative instruments (principally swap agreements and options on swap agreements) to effectively convert the fixed rate interest payments into floating rate interest payments. The fund also may purchase participations and assignments in, and commitments to purchase, floating rate loans. Investments in floating rate loans and other floating rate securities generally will focus on U.S. issuers, but the fund may invest in foreign issuers, typically those located in foreign countries that are members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

The fund will typically sell a security if the fund's sub-adviser believes it is overvalued from a valuation standpoint, another sector becomes relatively more attractive, and/or it expects fundamentals to deteriorate. In addition, at times, the fund may engage in active and frequent trading, which will increase portfolio turnover.

The fund, to a limited extent, may use derivative instruments as a substitute for investing directly in an underlying asset, to increase returns, to manage credit or interest rate risks, or as part of a hedging strategy. The derivative instruments in which the fund may invest typically include options, futures and options on futures (including those relating to securities, foreign currencies, indices and interest rates), forward contracts, and swap agreements (including interest rate and credit default swap agreements). To the extent such derivative instruments have similar economic characteristics to fixed-income securities as described in the fund's policy with respect to the investment of at least 80% of its net assets, the

market value of such instruments will be included in the 80% calculation. The fund intends to use options, futures and options on futures only as part of a hedging strategy. The fund may enter into swap agreements, such as interest rate swap agreements and credit default swap agreements, which can be used to transfer the interest rate or credit risk of a security without actually transferring ownership of the security or, for credit default swaps, to customize exposure to particular corporate credit. A credit default swap agreement is a derivative instrument whereby the buyer makes fixed, periodic premium payments to the seller in exchange for being made whole on an agreed-upon amount of principal should the specified reference entity (i.e., the issuer of a particular security) experience a "credit event" (e.g., failure to pay interest or principal, bankruptcy or restructuring). Derivatives may be entered into on established exchanges or through privately negotiated transactions referred to as over-the-counter derivatives. A derivatives contract will obligate or entitle the fund to deliver or receive an asset or cash payment based on the change in value of the underlying asset. The fund is required to limit its derivatives exposure so that the total notional value of derivatives does not exceed 10% of the fund's net assets, and is subject to certain reporting requirements.

The fund also may invest in collateralized debt obligations (CDOs), which are a type of asset-backed security and include collateralized bond obligations (CBOs), collateralized loan obligations (CLOs) and other similarly structured securities. CDOs generally issue separate series or "tranches" which vary with respect to collateral, risk and yield. To enhance current income, the fund may engage in a series of purchase and sale contracts or forward roll transactions in which the fund sells a mortgage-related security, for example, to a financial institution and simultaneously agrees to purchase a similar security from the institution at a later date at an agreed upon price. The fund also may make forward commitments in which the fund agrees to buy or sell a security in the future at an agreed upon price.

More information about the fund's portfolio securities and investment techniques, and associated risks, is provided in the fund's Statement of Additional Information.

## Investment Risks

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An investment in the fund is not a bank deposit. It is not insured or guaranteed by the FDIC or any other government agency. It is not a complete investment program. The value of your investment in the fund will fluctuate, sometimes dramatically, which means you could lose money.

The fund is subject to the following principal risks:

- *Fixed-income market risk:* The market value of a fixed-income security may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a particular company, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the outlook for corporate earnings, changes in interest or currency rates or adverse investor sentiment generally. The fixed-income securities market can be susceptible to increases in volatility and decreases in liquidity. Liquidity can decline unpredictably in response to overall economic conditions or credit tightening. Increases in volatility and decreases in liquidity may be caused by a rise in interest rates (or the expectation of a rise in interest rates). During periods of reduced market liquidity, the fund may not be able to readily sell fixed-income securities at prices at or near their perceived value. If the fund needed to sell large blocks of fixed-income securities to meet shareholder redemption requests or to raise cash, those sales could further reduce the prices of such securities. An unexpected increase in fund redemption requests, including requests from shareholders who may own a significant percentage of the fund's shares, which may be triggered by market turmoil or an increase in interest rates, could cause the fund to sell its holdings at a loss or at undesirable prices and adversely affect the fund's share price and increase the fund's liquidity risk, fund expenses and/or taxable distributions. Economic and other market developments can adversely affect fixed-income securities markets. Regulations and business practices, for example, have led some financial intermediaries to curtail their capacity to engage in trading (i.e., "market making") activities for certain fixed-income securities, which could have the potential to decrease liquidity and increase volatility in the fixed-income securities markets. Federal Reserve policy in response to market conditions, including with respect to interest rates, may adversely affect the value, volatility and liquidity of dividend and interest paying securities. Policy and legislative changes worldwide are affecting many aspects of financial regulation. The impact of these changes on the markets, and the practical implications for market participants, may not be fully known for some time.
- *Interest rate risk:* Prices of bonds and other fixed rate fixed-income securities tend to move inversely with changes in interest rates. Typically, a rise in rates will adversely affect fixed-income securities and, accordingly, will cause the value of the fund's investments in these securities to decline. A wide variety of market factors can cause interest rates to rise, including central bank monetary policy, rising inflation and changes in general economic conditions. It is difficult to predict the pace at which central banks or monetary authorities may increase (or decrease) interest rates or the timing, frequency, or magnitude of such changes. During periods of very low interest rates, which occur from time to time due to market forces or actions of governments and/or their central banks, including the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in the U.S., the fund may be subject to a greater risk of principal decline from rising interest rates. When interest rates fall, the values of already-issued fixed rate fixed-income securities

generally rise. However, when interest rates fall, the fund's investments in new securities may be at lower yields and may reduce the fund's income. Changing interest rates may have unpredictable effects on markets, may result in heightened market volatility and may detract from fund performance. The magnitude of these fluctuations in the market price of fixed-income securities is generally greater for securities with longer effective maturities and durations because such instruments do not mature, reset interest rates or become callable for longer periods of time. Unlike investment grade bonds, however, the prices of high yield ("junk") bonds may fluctuate unpredictably and not necessarily inversely with changes in interest rates. Interest rate changes may have different effects on the values of mortgage-related securities because of prepayment and extension risks. In addition, the rates on floating rate instruments adjust periodically with changes in market interest rates. Although these instruments are generally less sensitive to interest rate changes than fixed rate instruments, the value of floating rate loans and other floating rate securities may decline if their interest rates do not rise as quickly, or as much, as general interest rates.

- *Credit risk:* Failure of an issuer of a security to make timely interest or principal payments when due, or a decline or perception of a decline in the credit quality of the security, can cause the security's price to fall, lowering the value of the fund's investment in such security. The lower a security's credit rating, the greater the chance that the issuer of the security will default or fail to meet its payment obligations.
- *High yield securities risk:* High yield ("junk") securities involve greater credit risk, including the risk of default, than investment grade securities, and are considered predominantly speculative with respect to the issuer's ability to make principal and interest payments. These securities are especially sensitive to adverse changes in general economic conditions, to changes in the financial condition of their issuers and to price fluctuation in response to changes in interest rates. During periods of economic downturn or rising interest rates, issuers of below investment grade securities may experience financial stress that could adversely affect their ability to make payments of principal and interest and increase the possibility of default. The secondary market for below investment grade securities may not be as liquid as the secondary market for more highly rated securities, a factor which may have an adverse effect on the fund's ability to dispose of a particular high yield security. There are fewer dealers in the market for high yield securities than for investment grade securities. The prices quoted by different dealers may vary significantly, and the spread between the bid and asked price is generally much larger for high yield securities than for higher quality securities. Adverse publicity and investor perceptions, whether or not based on fundamental analysis, may also decrease the values and liquidity of below investment grade securities, especially in a market characterized by a low volume of trading. Default, or the market's perception that an issuer is likely to default, could reduce the value and liquidity of below investment grade securities. In addition, default of a security held by the fund may cause the fund to incur expenses, including legal expenses, in seeking recovery of principal or interest on its portfolio holdings, including litigation to enforce the fund's rights. Securities rated investment grade when purchased by the fund may subsequently be downgraded.
- *Mortgage-related securities risk:* Mortgage-related securities are subject to credit, prepayment and extension risk, and may be more volatile, less liquid and more difficult to price accurately than more traditional debt securities. The fund is subject to the credit risk associated with these securities, including the market's perception of the creditworthiness of the issuing federal agency, as well as the credit quality of the underlying assets. Although certain mortgage-related securities are guaranteed as to the timely payment of interest and principal by a third party (such as a U.S. government agency or instrumentality with respect to government-related mortgage securities) the market prices for such securities are not guaranteed and will fluctuate. Privately issued mortgage-related securities also are subject to credit risks associated with the performance of the underlying mortgage properties, and may be more volatile and less liquid than more traditional government-backed debt securities. As with other interest-bearing securities, the prices of certain mortgage-related securities are inversely affected by changes in interest rates. However, although the value of a mortgage-related security may decline when interest rates rise, the converse is not necessarily true, since in periods of declining interest rates the mortgages underlying the security are more likely to be prepaid causing the fund to purchase new securities at current market rates, which usually will be lower. The loss of higher yielding underlying mortgages and the reinvestment of proceeds at lower interest rates, known as prepayment risk, can reduce the fund's potential price gain in response to falling interest rates, reduce the fund's yield and/or cause the fund's share price to fall. Moreover, with respect to certain stripped mortgage-backed securities, if the underlying mortgage securities experience greater than anticipated prepayments of principal, the fund may fail to fully recoup its initial investment even if the securities are rated in the highest rating category by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. When interest rates rise, the effective duration of the fund's mortgage-related and other asset-backed securities may lengthen due to a drop in prepayments of the underlying mortgages or other assets. This is known as extension risk and would increase the fund's sensitivity to rising interest rates and its potential for price declines.
- *Foreign investment risk:* To the extent the fund invests in foreign securities, the fund's performance will be influenced by political, social and economic factors affecting investments in foreign issuers. Special risks associated with investments in foreign issuers include exposure to currency fluctuations, less liquidity, less developed or less efficient trading markets, lack of comprehensive company information, political and economic instability and differing auditing

and legal standards. Investments denominated in foreign currencies are subject to the risk that such currencies will decline in value relative to the U.S. dollar and affect the value of these investments held by the fund.

- *Market risk:* The value of the securities in which the fund invests may be affected by political, regulatory, economic and social developments, and developments that impact specific economic sectors, industries or segments of the market. In addition, turbulence in financial markets and reduced liquidity in equity, credit and/or fixed-income markets may negatively affect many issuers, which could adversely affect the fund. Global economies and financial markets are becoming increasingly interconnected, and conditions and events in one country, region or financial market may adversely impact issuers in a different country, region or financial market. These risks may be magnified if certain events or developments adversely interrupt the global supply chain; in these and other circumstances, such risks might affect companies world-wide. A widespread outbreak of an infectious disease, such as COVID-19, and efforts to contain its spread, may result in market volatility, inflation, reduced liquidity or disruption in the trading of certain financial instruments, and systemic economic weakness. To the extent the fund may overweight its investments in certain countries, companies, industries or market sectors, such positions will increase the fund's exposure to risk of loss from adverse developments affecting those countries, companies, industries or sectors.
- *Liquidity risk:* When there is little or no active trading market for specific types of securities, it can become more difficult to sell the securities in a timely manner at or near their perceived value. In such a market, the value of such securities and the fund's share price may fall dramatically. Other market developments can adversely affect fixed-income securities markets. Investments that are illiquid or that trade in lower volumes may be more difficult to value. The market for below investment grade securities may be less liquid and therefore these securities may be harder to value or sell at an acceptable price, especially during times of market volatility or decline. Investments in foreign securities tend to have greater exposure to liquidity risk than domestic securities. No active trading market may exist for some of the floating rate loans in which the fund invests and certain loans may be subject to restrictions on resale. Because some floating rate loans that the fund invests in may have a more limited secondary market, liquidity risk is more pronounced for the fund than for mutual funds that invest primarily in other types of fixed-income instruments or equity securities. Liquidity can decline unpredictably in response to overall economic conditions or credit tightening. Increases in volatility and decreases in liquidity may be caused by a rise in interest rates (or the expectation of a rise in interest rates). Liquidity risk also may refer to the risk that the fund will not be able to pay redemption proceeds within the allowable time period stated in this prospectus because of unusual market conditions, an unusually high volume of redemption requests, or other reasons. To meet redemption requests, the fund may be forced to sell securities at an unfavorable time and/or under unfavorable conditions, which may adversely affect the fund's share price.
- *Floating rate loan risk:* Unlike publicly traded common stocks which trade on national exchanges, there is no central market or exchange for loans to trade. Loans trade in an over-the-counter market, and confirmation and settlement, which are effected through standardized procedures and documentation, may take significantly longer than seven days to complete. The secondary market for floating rate loans also may be subject to irregular trading activity and wide bid/ask spreads. The lack of an active trading market for certain floating rate loans may impair the ability of the fund to realize full value in the event of the need to sell a floating rate loan and may make it difficult to value such loans. There may be less readily available, reliable information about certain floating rate loans than is the case for many other types of securities, and the fund's portfolio managers may be required to rely primarily on their own evaluation of a borrower's credit quality rather than on any available independent sources. The value of collateral, if any, securing a floating rate loan can decline, and may be insufficient to meet the issuer's obligations in the event of non-payment of scheduled interest or principal or may be difficult to readily liquidate. In the event of the bankruptcy of a borrower, the fund could experience delays or limitations imposed by bankruptcy or other insolvency laws with respect to its ability to realize the benefits of the collateral securing a loan. These laws may be less developed and more cumbersome with respect to the fund's non-U.S. investments. Uncollateralized senior loans involve a greater risk of loss. Some floating rate loans are subject to the risk that a court, pursuant to fraudulent conveyance or other similar laws, could subordinate the loans to presently existing or future indebtedness of the borrower or take other action detrimental to lenders, including the fund, such as invalidation of loans. The floating rate loans in which the fund may invest typically will be below investment grade quality and, like other below investment grade securities, are inherently speculative. As a result, the risks associated with such floating rate loans are similar to the risks of below investment grade securities, although senior loans are typically senior and secured in contrast to other below investment grade securities, which are often subordinated and unsecured. Floating rate loans may not be considered to be "securities" for purposes of the anti-fraud protections of the federal securities laws, including those with respect to the use of material non-public information, so that purchasers, such as the fund, may not have the benefit of these protections.
- *CDOs risk:* The risks of an investment in a CDO, including a CBO or CLO, depend largely on the type of the collateral and the tranche of the CDO in which the fund invests. CDO tranches can experience substantial losses due to actual defaults, increased sensitivity to defaults due to collateral default, market anticipation of defaults, as well as aversion to CDO securities as an asset class. Normally, CBOs, CLOs and other CDOs are privately offered and sold,

and thus, are not registered under the securities laws and may not have an active secondary trading market. As a result, investments in CDOs may be characterized by the fund as illiquid securities. In addition to the normal risks associated with credit-related securities discussed elsewhere in this prospectus (e.g., interest rate risk and default risk), investments in CDOs may be more volatile, less liquid and more difficult to price than other types of investments.

- *Issuer risk:* A security's market value may decline for a number of reasons which directly relate to the issuer, such as management performance, financial leverage and reduced demand for the issuer's products or services, or factors that affect the issuer's industry, such as labor shortages or increased production costs and competitive conditions within an industry.
- *Portfolio turnover risk:* The fund may engage in short-term trading, which could produce higher transaction costs and taxable distributions, and lower the fund's after-tax performance.
- *Management risk:* The investment process and techniques used by the fund's sub-adviser could fail to achieve the fund's investment goal, may cause your fund investment to lose value or may cause the fund to underperform other funds with similar investment goals.

In addition to the principal risks described above, the fund is subject to the following additional risks that are not anticipated to be principal risks of investing in the fund:

- *Derivatives risk:* A small investment in derivatives could have a potentially large impact on the fund's performance. The use of derivatives involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in the underlying assets, and the fund's use of derivatives may result in losses to the fund and increased portfolio volatility. Derivatives in which the fund may invest can be highly volatile, illiquid and difficult to value, and there is the risk that changes in the value of a derivative held by the fund will not correlate with the underlying assets or the fund's other investments in the manner intended. Derivative instruments, such as swap agreements, forward contracts and other over-the-counter transactions, also involve the risk that a loss may be sustained as a result of the failure of the counterparty to the derivative instruments to make required payments or otherwise comply with the derivative instruments' terms. Many of the regulatory protections afforded participants on organized exchanges for futures contracts and exchange-traded options, such as the performance guarantee of an exchange clearing house, are not available in connection with over-the-counter derivative transactions. Certain derivatives, such as written call options, have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of the initial investment, and involve greater risks than the underlying assets because, in addition to general market risks, they are subject to liquidity risk, credit and counterparty risk (failure of the counterparty to the derivatives transaction to honor its obligation) and pricing risk (risk that the derivative cannot or will not be accurately valued). If a derivative transaction is particularly large or if the relevant market is illiquid (as is the case with many privately negotiated derivatives, including swap agreements), it may not be possible to initiate a transaction or liquidate a position at an advantageous time or price.
- *Forward commitments risk:* The purchase or sale of securities on a forward commitment basis means delivery and payment take place at a future date at a predetermined price. When purchasing a security on a forward commitment basis, the fund would assume the risks of ownership of the security, including the risk of price fluctuations, and takes such fluctuations into account when determining its net asset value.
- *Asset-backed securities risk:* Asset-backed securities are subject to credit, prepayment and extension risk, and may be more volatile, less liquid and more difficult to price accurately than more traditional debt securities. General downturns in the economy could cause the value of asset-backed securities to fall. Asset-backed securities are often subject to more rapid repayment than their stated maturity date would indicate as a result of the pass-through of prepayments of principal on the underlying loans. During periods of declining interest rates, prepayment of loans underlying asset-backed securities can be expected to accelerate. Accordingly, the fund's ability to maintain positions in such securities will be affected by reductions in the principal amount of such securities resulting from prepayments, and its ability to reinvest the returns of principal at comparable yields is subject to generally prevailing interest rates at that time. The value of some asset-backed securities may be particularly sensitive to changes in prevailing interest rates.
- *Prepayment risk:* Some securities give the issuer the option to prepay or call the securities before their maturity date, which may reduce the market value of the security and the anticipated yield-to-maturity. Issuers often exercise this right when interest rates fall. In addition, floating rate loans may not have call protection and may be prepaid partially or in full at any time without penalty. If an issuer "calls" its securities during a time of declining interest rates, the fund might have to reinvest the proceeds in an investment offering a lower yield, and therefore might not benefit from any increase in value as a result of declining interest rates. During periods of market illiquidity or rising interest rates, prices of "callable" issues are subject to increased price fluctuation.
- *Subordinated securities risk:* Holders of securities that are subordinated or "junior" to more senior securities of an issuer are entitled to payment after holders of more senior securities of the issuer. Subordinated securities are more likely to

suffer a credit loss than non-subordinated securities of the same issuer, any loss incurred by the subordinated securities is likely to be proportionately greater, and any recovery of interest or principal may take more time. As a result, even a perceived decline in creditworthiness of the issuer is likely to have a greater impact on the market value of these securities. Subordinated loans generally are subject to similar risks as those associated with investments in senior loans, except that such loans are subordinated in payment and/or lower in lien priority to first lien holders. Consequently, subordinated loans generally have greater price volatility than senior loans and may be less liquid. The risks associated with subordinated unsecured loans, which are not backed by a security interest in any specific collateral, are higher than those for comparable loans that are secured by specific collateral.

- *Participation interests and assignments risk:* A participation interest gives the fund an undivided interest in a loan in the proportion that the fund's participation interest bears to the total principal amount of the loan, but does not establish any direct relationship between the fund and the borrower. If a floating rate loan is acquired through a participation, the fund generally will have no right to enforce compliance by the borrower with the terms of the loan agreement against the borrower, and the fund may not directly benefit from the collateral supporting the debt obligation in which it has purchased the participation. As a result, the fund will be exposed to the credit risk of both the borrower and the institution selling the participation. The fund also may invest in a loan through an assignment of all or a portion of such loan from a third party. If a floating rate loan is acquired through an assignment, the fund may not be able to unilaterally enforce all rights and remedies under the loan and with regard to any associated collateral.
- *Loan valuation risk:* Because there may be a lack of centralized information and trading for certain loans in which the fund may invest, reliable market value quotations may not be readily available for such loans and their valuation may require more research than for securities with a more developed secondary market. Moreover, the valuation of such loans may be affected by uncertainties in the conditions of the financial market, unreliable reference data, lack of transparency and inconsistency of valuation models and processes.
- *Leverage risk:* The use of leverage, such as entering into futures contracts, forward currency contracts or swaps and engaging in forward roll or commitment transactions, may magnify the fund's gains or losses. Because many derivatives have a leverage component, adverse changes in the value or level of the underlying asset or reference rate can result in a loss substantially greater than the amount invested in the derivative itself.
- *Temporary investment risk:* Under adverse market conditions, the fund could invest some or all of its assets in U.S. Treasury securities and money market securities, or hold cash. Although the fund would do this for temporary defensive purposes, it could reduce the benefit from any upswing in the market. During such periods, the fund's investments may not be consistent with its principal investment strategy, and the fund may not achieve its investment objective.

## Management

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### Investment Adviser

The investment adviser for the fund is BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc., 240 Greenwich Street, New York, New York 10286. BNYIA manages approximately \$350 billion in 90 mutual fund portfolios. For the past fiscal year, the fund paid BNYIA a management fee at the effective annual rate of .69% of the value of the fund's average daily net assets. A discussion regarding the basis for the board's approving the fund's investment management agreement with BNYIA is available in the fund's Form N-CSR for the six-month period ended June 30, 2024. BNYIA is the primary mutual fund business of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation (BNY), a global investments company dedicated to helping its clients manage and service their financial assets throughout the investment lifecycle. Whether providing financial services for institutions, corporations or individual investors, BNY delivers informed investment management and investment services in 35 countries. BNY is a leading investment management and investment services company, uniquely focused to help clients manage and move their financial assets in the rapidly changing global marketplace. BNY has \$52 trillion in assets under custody and administration and \$2 trillion in assets under management. BNY is the corporate brand of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation and may be used to reference the corporation as a whole and/or its various subsidiaries generally. BNY Investments is one of the world's leading investment management organizations, and one of the top U.S. wealth managers, encompassing BNY's affiliated investment management firms, wealth management services and global distribution companies. Additional information is available at [www.bny.com/investments](http://www.bny.com/investments).

The asset management philosophy of BNYIA is based on the belief that discipline and consistency are important to investment success. For each fund, BNYIA seeks to establish clear guidelines for portfolio management and to be systematic in making decisions. This approach is designed to provide each fund with a distinct, stable identity.

## **Sub-Adviser**

BNYIA has engaged Alcentra NY, LLC to serve as the fund's sub-adviser. As sub-adviser to the fund, Alcentra, subject to BNYIA's supervision and approval, provides day-to-day management of the fund's investments. Alcentra, located at One Madison Avenue, Suite 1600, New York, New York 10010, is a registered investment adviser specializing in sub-investment grade corporate credit investment strategies. Alcentra was founded in 2002 and, together with Alcentra Limited, managed more than \$30 billion in assets as of December 31, 2024. Alcentra is a subsidiary of Franklin Resources, Inc., a global investment management organization operating as Franklin Templeton. Franklin Templeton, through its specialist investment managers, offers boutique specialization on a global scale, bringing extensive capabilities in fixed income, equity, alternatives, and multi-asset solutions. A discussion regarding the basis for the board's approving the sub-investment advisory agreement between BNYIA and Alcentra is available in the fund's Form N-CSR for the six-month period ended June 30, 2024.

Chris Barris and Kevin Cronk, CFA are the fund's primary portfolio managers, positions they have held since October 2010 and September 2012, respectively. Messrs. Barris and Cronk are jointly and primarily responsible for managing the fund's portfolio. Mr. Barris is a Portfolio Manager, U.S. Liquids at Alcentra, which he joined in January 2013. Mr. Cronk is a Portfolio Manager, U.S. Liquids at Alcentra, which he joined in January 2013.

The fund's Statement of Additional Information (SAI) provides additional portfolio manager information, including compensation, other accounts managed and ownership of fund shares.

## **Distributor**

BNY Mellon Securities Corporation (BNYSC), a wholly-owned subsidiary of BNYIA, serves as distributor of the fund and of the other funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds. Any Rule 12b-1 fees and shareholder services fees, as applicable, are paid to BNYSC for financing the sale and distribution of fund shares and for providing shareholder account service and maintenance, respectively. BNYIA or BNYSC may provide cash payments out of its own resources to financial intermediaries that sell shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds or provide other services. Such payments are separate from any sales charges, 12b-1 fees and/or shareholder services fees or other expenses that may be paid by a fund to those financial intermediaries. Because those payments are not made by fund shareholders or the fund, the fund's total expense ratio will not be affected by any such payments. These payments may be made to financial intermediaries, including affiliates, that provide shareholder servicing, sub-administration, recordkeeping and/or sub-transfer agency services, marketing support and/or access to sales meetings, sales representatives and management representatives of the financial intermediary. Cash compensation also may be paid from BNYIA's or BNYSC's own resources to financial intermediaries for inclusion of a fund on a sales list, including a preferred or select sales list or in other sales programs. These payments sometimes are referred to as "revenue sharing." From time to time, BNYIA or BNYSC also may provide cash or non-cash compensation to financial intermediaries or their representatives in the form of occasional gifts; occasional meals, tickets or other entertainment; support for due diligence trips; educational conference sponsorships; support for recognition programs; technology or infrastructure support; and other forms of cash or non-cash compensation permissible under broker-dealer regulations. In some cases, these payments or compensation may create an incentive for a financial intermediary or its employees to recommend or sell shares of the fund to you. This potential conflict of interest may be addressed by policies, procedures or practices that are adopted by the financial intermediary. As there may be many different policies, procedures or practices adopted by different intermediaries to address the manner in which compensation is earned through the sale of investments or the provision of related services, the compensation rates and other payment arrangements that may apply to a financial intermediary and its representatives may vary by intermediary. Please contact your financial representative for details about any payments they or their firm may receive in connection with the sale of fund shares or the provision of services to the fund.

The fund, BNYIA, Alcentra and BNYSC have each adopted a code of ethics that permits its personnel, subject to such code, to invest in securities, including securities that may be purchased or held by the fund. Each code of ethics restricts the personal securities transactions of employees, and requires portfolio managers and other investment personnel to comply with the code's preclearance and disclosure procedures. The primary purpose of the respective codes is to ensure that personal trading by employees is done in a manner that does not disadvantage the fund or other client accounts.

# Shareholder Guide

## Choosing a Share Class

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The fund is designed primarily for people who are investing through third party intermediaries that have entered into selling agreements with the fund's distributor, such as banks, brokers, dealers or financial advisers (collectively, financial intermediaries), or in Retirement Plans. Financial intermediaries with whom you open a fund account may have different policies and procedures than those described in this prospectus or the SAI. Accordingly, the availability of certain share classes and/or shareholder privileges or services described in this prospectus or the SAI will depend on the policies, procedures and trading platforms of the financial intermediary or Retirement Plan recordkeeper. To be eligible for the share classes and/or shareholder privileges or services described in this prospectus or the SAI, you may need to open a fund account directly with the fund or a financial intermediary that offers such classes and/or privileges or services. Financial intermediaries purchasing fund shares on behalf of their clients determine the class of shares available for their clients. Consult a representative of your financial intermediary or Retirement Plan for further information.

**This prospectus offers Class A, C and I shares of the fund.**

Your financial intermediary may receive different compensation for selling one class of shares than for selling another class, and may impose its own account fees and methods for purchasing and selling fund shares, which may depend on, among other things, the type of investor account and the policies, procedures and practices adopted by your financial intermediary. You should review these arrangements with your financial representative before determining which class to invest in.

The different classes of fund shares represent investments in the same portfolio of securities, but the classes are subject to different expenses and will likely have different share prices. When choosing a class, you should consider your investment amount, anticipated holding period, the potential costs over your holding period and whether you qualify for any reduction or waiver of the sales charge. It is important to remember that any contingent deferred sales charge (CDSC) or Rule 12b-1 fees have the same purpose as the front-end sales charge: to compensate the distributor for concessions and expenses it pays to dealers and financial intermediaries in connection with the sale of fund shares. No front-end sales charge or CDSC is charged on fund shares acquired through the reinvestment of fund dividends or capital gains distributions. Because the Rule 12b-1 fee is paid out of the fund's assets on an ongoing basis, over time it will increase the cost of your investment and may cost you more than paying other types of sales charges. Information regarding sales charges is not made available separately at [www.bny.com/investments](http://www.bny.com/investments) because such information is fully contained in this prospectus and in the SAI in the How to Buy Shares section and the Additional Information About How to Buy Shares section beginning on page II-1 and page III-1, respectively.

A complete description of these classes follows.

### **Class A Shares**

When you invest in Class A shares, you pay the public offering price, which is the share price, or net asset value (NAV), plus the initial sales charge that may apply to your purchase. The amount of the initial sales charge is based on the size of your investment, as the following table shows. We also describe below how you may reduce or eliminate the initial sales charge (see "Sales Charge Reductions and Waivers"). Class A shares are subject to an annual Rule 12b-1 fee of .25%.

Since some of your investment goes to pay an up-front sales charge when you purchase Class A shares, you purchase fewer shares than you would with the same investment in Class C shares. Nevertheless, you are usually better off purchasing Class A shares, rather than Class C shares, and paying an up-front sales charge if you:

- plan to own the shares for an extended period of time, since the higher ongoing Rule 12b-1 fees on Class C shares may eventually exceed the cost of the up-front sales charge; and
- qualify for a reduced or waived sales charge

If you invest \$1 million or more (and are not eligible to purchase Class I shares), Class A shares will always be the most advantageous choice.

Amount of Transaction	Total Sales Load -- Class A Shares	
	As a % of Offering Price per Share	As a % of Net Asset Value per Share
Less than \$50,000	4.50	4.71
\$50,000 to less than \$100,000	4.00	4.17
\$100,000 to less than \$250,000	3.00	3.09
\$250,000 to less than \$500,000	2.50	2.56
\$500,000 to less than \$1,000,000	2.00	2.04
\$1,000,000 or more*	-0-	-0-

\* No front-end sales load applies on investments of \$1 million or more, but a CDSC of 1.00% may be imposed on certain redemptions of such shares within one year of the date of purchase. See "Additional Information About CDSCs" below.

## Sales Charge Reductions and Waivers

To receive a reduction or waiver of your initial sales charge or CDSC, you must let your financial intermediary or the fund, as applicable, know at the time you purchase fund shares that you qualify for such a reduction or waiver. If you do not let your financial intermediary or the fund, as applicable, know that you are eligible for a reduction or waiver, you may not receive the reduction or waiver to which you are otherwise entitled. In order to receive a reduction or waiver, you may be required to provide your financial intermediary or the fund, as applicable, with evidence of your qualification for the reduction or waiver. You should consult a representative of your financial intermediary. Certain sales charge reductions and waivers are available only if you purchase your shares directly from the fund for accounts maintained with the fund; these sales charge reductions and waivers are described below. **In addition, shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through certain financial intermediaries are eligible only for sales charge reductions and waivers made available by such financial intermediaries; these sales charge reductions and waivers are described in the Appendix to this prospectus.**

**If you purchase Class A shares directly from the fund or through a financial intermediary, other than those financial intermediaries as described in the Appendix to this prospectus, you can reduce your initial sales charge in the following ways:**

- *Rights of accumulation.* You can count toward the amount of your investment your total account value in all shares of the fund and other funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds that are subject to a sales charge. For example, if you have \$1 million invested in shares that are subject to a sales charge of other funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds, you can invest in Class A shares of the fund without an initial sales charge. For purposes of determining "your total account value", shares held will be valued at their current market value. We may terminate or change this privilege at any time on written notice.
- *Letter of intent.* You can sign a letter of intent, in which you agree to invest a certain amount (your goal) over a 13-month period in shares of the fund and other funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds that are subject to a sales charge, and your initial sales charge will be based on your goal. A 90-day back-dated period can also be used to count previous purchases toward your goal. Your goal must be at least \$50,000, and your initial investment must be at least \$5,000. Each purchase will be made at the public offering price applicable to a single transaction of the dollar amount specified in the letter of intent. The sales charge will be adjusted if you do not meet your goal. By signing a letter of intent, you authorize the fund's transfer agent to hold in escrow 5% of the amount indicated in the letter of intent and redeem Class A shares in your account to pay the additional sales charge if the letter of intent goal is not met prior to the expiration of the 13-month period. See "Additional Information About Shareholder Services" in the SAI.
- *Combine with family members and other related purchasers.* You can also count toward the amount of your investment all investments in shares that are subject to a sales charge of other funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds, by your spouse and your minor children (family members), including their rights of accumulation and goals under a letter of intent. In addition, (1) a trustee or other fiduciary purchasing securities for a single trust estate or a single fiduciary account although more than one beneficiary is involved and (2) a group of accounts established by or on behalf of the employees of an employer or affiliated employers pursuant to a Retirement Plan will each be permitted to combine their investments for purposes of reducing or eliminating sales charges. See "How to Buy Shares" in the SAI.

**Class A shares may be purchased at NAV without payment of a sales charge by the following individuals and entities, if such shares are purchased directly from the fund or through a financial intermediary, other than those financial intermediaries as described in the Appendix to this prospectus:**

- full-time or part-time employees, and their spouses or domestic partners and minor children, of BNYIA or any of its affiliates

- board members of BNYIA and board members of the BNY Mellon Family of Funds, and their spouses or domestic partners and minor children
- full-time employees, and their spouses and minor children, of financial intermediaries
- "wrap" accounts for the benefit of clients of financial intermediaries
- investors who participate in a self-directed investment brokerage account program offered by a financial intermediary that may or may not charge their customers a transaction fee
- Retirement Plans, provided that, if such Class A shares are purchased through a financial intermediary, the financial intermediary performs recordkeeping or other administrative services for the Retirement Plan
- shareholders in IRA rollover accounts sponsored by BNYIA or its affiliates funded with the distribution proceeds from Retirement Plans. Upon establishing the IRA rollover account sponsored by BNYIA or its affiliates in the fund, the shareholder becomes eligible to make subsequent purchases of Class A shares of the fund at NAV in such account

In addition, shareholders of the fund will receive Class A shares of the fund at NAV without payment of a sales charge upon the conversion of such shareholders' Class C shares of the fund in the month of or month following the eight-year anniversary date of the purchase of the Class C shares.

**Class A shares may be purchased at NAV without payment of a sales charge by the following individuals and entities, if such shares are purchased directly from the fund for accounts maintained with the fund:**

- investors who either (1) have, or whose spouse or minor children have, beneficially owned shares and continuously maintained an open account directly with a fund managed by BNYIA since on or before February 28, 2006, or (2) such purchase is for a self-directed investment account that may or may not be subject to a transaction fee
- qualified separate accounts maintained by an insurance company; any state, county or city or instrumentality thereof; and charitable organizations investing \$50,000 or more in fund shares and charitable remainder trusts

**Class C Shares**

Since you pay no initial sales charge, an investment of less than \$1 million in Class C shares buys more shares than the same investment would in Class A shares. However, Class C shares are subject to an annual Rule 12b-1 fee of 1.00%, which is higher than the annual Rule 12b-1 fee of .25% charged to Class A shares. Because the Rule 12b-1 fees are paid out of the fund's assets attributable to Class C shares on an ongoing basis, over time these fees will increase the cost of your investment and may cost you more than paying other types of sales charges, such as the initial sales charge on Class A shares. Class C shares redeemed within one year of purchase are subject to a 1.00% CDSC. See "Additional Information About CDSCs" below. Class C shares purchased directly from the fund or through a financial intermediary, except as otherwise disclosed in this prospectus, automatically convert to Class A shares in the month of or month following the eight-year anniversary date of the purchase of the Class C shares, based on the relative NAV of each such class without the imposition of any sales charge, fee or other charge.

Because Class A shares will always be a more favorable investment than Class C shares for investments of \$1 million or more, the fund will generally not accept a purchase order for Class C shares in the amount of \$1 million or more. While the fund will take reasonable steps to prevent investments of \$1 million or more in Class C shares, it may not be able to identify such investments made through certain financial intermediaries or omnibus accounts.

**Class I Shares**

Since you pay no initial sales charge, an investment of less than \$1 million in Class I shares buys more shares than the same investment would in a class of shares subject to an initial sales charge. There is also no CDSC imposed on redemptions of Class I shares, and you do not pay any ongoing service or distribution fees.

Class I shares may be purchased by:

- bank trust departments, trust companies and insurance companies that have entered into agreements with the fund's distributor to offer Class I shares to their clients
- institutional investors acting in a fiduciary, advisory, agency, custodial or similar capacity for Retirement Plans and SEP-IRAs that have entered into agreements with the fund's distributor to offer Class I shares to such plans
- law firms or attorneys acting as trustees or executors/administrators
- foundations and endowments that make an initial investment in the fund of at least \$1 million

- sponsors of college savings plans that qualify for tax-exempt treatment under Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code, that maintain an omnibus account with the fund and do not require shareholder tax reporting or 529 account support responsibilities from the fund's distributor
- advisory fee-based accounts offered through financial intermediaries who, depending on the structure of the selected advisory platform, make Class I shares available
- certain institutional clients of a BNY investment advisory subsidiary, provided that such clients are approved by BNYIA
- U.S.-based employees of BNY, board members of BNYIA and board members of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds, and the spouse, domestic partner or minor child of any of the foregoing, subject to certain conditions described in the SAI, and provided that such Class I shares are purchased directly from the fund
- unaffiliated investment companies approved by the fund's distributor
- clients of financial intermediaries that effect transactions in Class I shares through their brokerage platforms solely as a broker in an agency capacity for their clients and that have entered into an agreement with the fund's distributor. An investor purchasing Class I shares through the brokerage platform of such a financial intermediary will be required to pay a commission and/or other forms of compensation to the financial intermediary

Institutions purchasing fund shares on behalf of their clients determine whether Class I shares will be available for their clients. Accordingly, the availability of Class I shares of the fund will depend on the policies, procedures and trading platforms of the institutional investor.

### **Additional Information About CDSCs**

The fund's CDSC is based on the lesser of the NAV of the shares at the time of redemption or the original offering price (which is the original NAV). In addition:

- No CDSC is charged on fund shares you acquired by reinvesting your fund dividends or capital gains distributions.
- No CDSC is charged on the per share appreciation of your fund account over the initial purchase price of the shares.
- To keep your CDSC as low as possible, each time you place a request to sell shares, the fund will first sell any shares in your account that do not carry a CDSC and then the shares in your account that have been held the longest.

**The fund's CDSC on Class A and C shares may be waived for shares purchased directly from the fund or through a financial intermediary, other than those financial intermediaries as described in the Appendix to this prospectus, in the following cases:**

- exchanges of shares, except if shares acquired by exchange are then redeemed within the period during which a CDSC would apply to the initial shares purchased
- redemptions made within one year of death or disability of the shareholder
- redemptions made as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code
- redemptions made through the Automatic Withdrawal Plan, if such redemptions do not exceed 12% of the value of the account annually
- redemptions by Retirement Plans, provided that, if such shares were purchased through a financial intermediary, the financial intermediary performs recordkeeping or other administrative services for the Retirement Plan

### **Buying and Selling Shares**

BNYIA calculates fund NAVs as of the scheduled close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) (usually 4:00 p.m. Eastern time) on days the NYSE is scheduled to be open for regular business. The NYSE is closed on certain holidays listed in "Determination of NAV" in the SAI. You may buy, exchange or redeem shares at their NAV next calculated after your order is received in proper form by the fund's transfer agent or other authorized entity, adjusted for any applicable sales charge. "Proper form" refers to completion of an account application (if applicable), satisfaction of requirements in this section (subject to "Shareholder Guide—General Policies") and any applicable conditions in "Additional Information About How to Redeem Shares" in the SAI. Authorized entities other than the fund's transfer agent may apply different conditions for the satisfaction of "proper form" requirements. For more information, consult a representative of your financial intermediary. When calculating NAVs, BNYIA values equity investments on the basis of market quotations or official closing prices. BNYIA generally values fixed-income investments based on values supplied by an independent pricing service approved by the fund's board. The pricing service's procedures are reviewed

under the general supervision of the board. If market quotations or official closing prices or valuations from a pricing service are not readily available, or are determined not to reflect accurately fair value, the fund may value those investments at fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the fund's board. Fair value of investments may be determined by BNYIA, as the fund's Valuation Designee, using such information as it deems appropriate under the circumstances. Under certain circumstances, the fair value of foreign equity securities will be provided by an independent pricing service. Using fair value to price investments may result in a value that is different from a security's most recent closing price and from the prices used by other mutual funds to calculate their NAVs. Over-the-counter derivative instruments generally will be valued based on values supplied by an independent pricing service approved by the fund's board. Futures contracts will be valued at the most recent settlement price. Forward currency contracts will be valued using the forward rate obtained from an independent pricing service approved by the fund's board. Foreign securities held by the fund may trade on days when the fund does not calculate its NAV and thus may affect the fund's NAV on days when investors will not be able to purchase or sell (redeem) fund shares.

Investments in certain types of thinly traded securities may provide short-term traders arbitrage opportunities with respect to the fund's shares. For example, arbitrage opportunities may exist when trading in a portfolio security or securities is halted and does not resume, or the market on which such securities are traded closes before the fund calculates its NAV. If short-term investors in the fund were able to take advantage of these arbitrage opportunities, they could dilute the NAV of fund shares held by long-term investors. Portfolio valuation policies can serve to reduce arbitrage opportunities available to short-term traders, but there is no assurance that such valuation policies will prevent dilution of the fund's NAV by short-term traders. While the fund has a policy regarding frequent trading, it too may not be completely effective to prevent short-term NAV arbitrage trading, particularly in regard to omnibus accounts. Please see "Shareholder Guide – General Policies" for further information about the fund's frequent trading policy.

Orders to buy and sell shares received by an authorized entity (such as a bank, broker-dealer or financial adviser, or Retirement Plan that has entered into an agreement with the fund's distributor) by the time as of which the fund calculates its NAV (usually 4:00 p.m. Eastern time) will be based on the NAV determined that day.

## How to Buy Shares

### By Mail.

**Regular Accounts.** To open a regular account, complete an application and mail it, together with a check payable to The BNY Mellon Family of Funds, to the appropriate address below. To purchase additional shares in a regular account, mail a check payable to The BNY Mellon Family of Funds (with your account number on your check), together with an investment slip, to the appropriate address below.

**IRA Accounts.** To open an IRA account or make additional investments in an IRA account, be sure to specify the fund name and the year for which the contribution is being made. When opening a new account include a completed IRA application applicable to the type of IRA for which the investment is made, and when making additional investments include an investment slip. Make checks payable to The BNY Mellon Family of Funds, and mail to the appropriate address below.

**Mailing Address.** If you are investing directly through the fund, mail to:

BNY Shareholder Services  
P.O. Box 534434  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15253-4434

If you are investing through a third party, such as a bank, broker-dealer or financial adviser, or in a Retirement Plan, mail to:

BNY Institutional Services  
P.O. Box 534442  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15253-4442

If you are applying for an Institutional Direct account, please contact your BNY relationship manager for mailing instructions.

**Electronic Check or Wire.** To purchase shares by wire or electronic check, please call 1-800-373-9387 (inside the U.S. only) for more information.

**Telephone or Online.** To purchase additional shares by telephone or online, you can call 1-800-373-9387 (inside the U.S. only) or visit [www.bny.com/investments](http://www.bny.com/investments) to request your transaction. In order to do so, you must have elected the TeleTransfer Privilege on your account application or a Shareholder Services Form. See "Services for Fund Investors — Wire Redemption and TeleTransfer Privileges" for more information. Institutional Direct accounts are not eligible for online services.

**Automatically.** You may purchase additional shares by selecting one of the automatic investment services made available to the fund on your account application or service application. See "Services for Fund Investors – Automatic Services."

The minimum initial and subsequent investment (except as set forth below) is \$1,000 and \$100, respectively. The minimum initial investment for Retirement Plans or IRAs (other than Coverdell Education Savings Accounts) sponsored by BNYIA or its affiliates is \$750, with no minimum subsequent investment. The minimum initial investment for Coverdell Education Savings Accounts sponsored by BNYIA or its affiliates is \$500, with no minimum subsequent investment. Subsequent investments made through TeleTransfer are subject to a \$100 minimum and a \$150,000 maximum. All investments must be in U.S. dollars. Third-party checks, cash, travelers' checks or money orders will not be accepted. You may be charged a fee for any check that does not clear.

## How to Sell Shares

You may sell (redeem) shares at any time. Your shares will be sold at the next NAV calculated after your order is received in proper form by the fund's transfer agent or other authorized entity, less any applicable CDSC. Any certificates representing fund shares being sold must be returned with your redemption request. Your order will be processed promptly.

If you request the fund to transmit your redemption proceeds to you by check, the fund expects that your redemption proceeds normally will be sent within two business days after your request is received in proper form. If you request the fund to transmit your redemption proceeds to you by wire via the Wire Redemption Privilege (\$1,000 minimum) or electronic check via the TeleTransfer Privilege (\$500 minimum), and the fund has your bank account information on file, the fund expects that your redemption proceeds normally will be wired within one business day or sent by electronic check within two business days, as applicable, to your bank account after your request is received in proper form. See "Services for Fund Investors — Wire Redemption and TeleTransfer Privileges" for more information. Payment of redemption proceeds may take longer than the number of days the fund typically expects and may take up to seven days after your order is received in proper form by the fund's transfer agent or other authorized entity, particularly during periods of stressed market conditions or very large redemptions or excessive trading.

The processing of redemptions may be suspended, and the delivery of redemption proceeds may be delayed beyond seven days, depending on the circumstances, for any period: (i) during which the NYSE is closed (other than on holidays or weekends), or during which trading on the NYSE is restricted; (ii) when an emergency exists that makes the disposal of securities owned by the fund or the determination of the fair value of the fund's net assets not reasonably practicable; or (iii) as permitted by order of the Securities and Exchange Commission for the protection of fund shareholders. For these purposes, the Securities and Exchange Commission determines the conditions under which trading shall be deemed to be restricted and an emergency shall be deemed to exist.

Before selling or writing a check against shares recently purchased by check, TeleTransfer or Automatic Asset Builder, please note that:

- if you send a written request to sell such shares, the fund may delay sending the proceeds for up to eight business days following the purchase of those shares or until the fund receives verification of clearance of the funds used to purchase such shares, whichever is earlier
- the fund will not honor redemption checks or process wire, telephone, online or TeleTransfer redemption requests for up to eight business days following the purchase of those shares or until the fund receives verification of clearance of the funds used to purchase such shares, whichever is earlier

Under normal circumstances, the fund expects to meet redemption requests by using cash it holds in its portfolio or selling portfolio securities to generate cash. In addition, the fund, and certain other funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds, may draw upon an unsecured credit facility for temporary or emergency purposes to meet redemption requests. The fund also reserves the right to pay redemption proceeds in securities rather than cash (i.e., "redeem in-kind"), to the extent the composition of the fund's investment portfolio enables it to do so. Generally, a redemption in-kind may be made under the following circumstances: (1) BNYIA determines that a redemption in-kind (i) is more advantageous to the fund (e.g., due to advantageous tax consequences or lower transaction costs) than selling/purchasing portfolio securities, (ii) will not favor the redeeming shareholder to the detriment of any other shareholder or the fund and (iii) is in the best interests of the fund; (2) to manage liquidity risk (i.e., the risk that the fund could not meet redemption requests without significant dilution of remaining investors' interests in the fund); (3) in stressed market conditions; or (4) subject to the approval of the fund's board in other circumstances identified by BNYIA. Securities distributed in connection with any such redemption in-kind are expected to generally represent your pro rata portion of assets held by the fund immediately prior to the redemption, with adjustments as may be necessary in connection with, for example, certain derivatives, restricted securities, odd lots or fractional shares. Any securities distributed in-kind will remain exposed to market risk until sold, and you may incur transaction costs and taxable gain when selling the securities.

## By Mail.

**Regular Accounts.** To redeem shares in a regular account by mail, send a letter of instruction that includes your name, your account number, the name of the fund, the share class, the dollar amount to be redeemed and how and where to send the proceeds. Mail your request to the appropriate address below.

**IRA Accounts.** To redeem shares in an IRA account by mail, send a letter of instruction that includes all of the same information for regular accounts and indicate whether the distribution is qualified or premature and whether the 10% TEFRA should be withheld. Mail your request to the appropriate address below.

**Mailing Address.** If you invested directly through the fund, mail to:

BNY Shareholder Services  
P.O. Box 534434  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15253-4434

If you invested through a third party, such as a bank, broker-dealer or financial adviser, or in a Retirement Plan, mail to:

BNY Institutional Services  
P.O. Box 534442  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15253-4442

If you are an Institutional Direct accountholder, please contact your BNY relationship manager for mailing instructions.

A medallion signature guarantee is required for some written sell orders. These include:

- amounts of \$10,000 or more on accounts whose address has been changed within the last 30 days
- requests to send the proceeds to a different payee or address
- amounts of \$100,000 or more

A medallion signature guarantee helps protect against fraud. You can obtain one from most banks or securities dealers, but not from a notary public. For joint accounts, each signature must be guaranteed. Please call to ensure that your medallion signature guarantee will be processed correctly.

**Telephone or Online.** To redeem shares by telephone or online, call 1-800-373-9387 (inside the U.S. only) or, for regular accounts, visit [www.bny.com/investments](http://www.bny.com/investments) to request your transaction. Institutional Direct accounts are not eligible for online services.

By calling 1-800-373-9387 (inside the U.S. only), you may speak to a BNY representative and request that redemption proceeds be paid by check and mailed to your address of record (maximum \$250,000 per day). For redemption requests made online through [www.bny.com/investments](http://www.bny.com/investments) or through the Express voice-activated account access system, there is a \$100,000 per day limit.

**Automatically.** You may sell shares in a regular account by completing an Automatic Withdrawal Form which you can obtain by calling 1-800-373-9387 (inside the U.S. only), visiting [www.bny.com/investments](http://www.bny.com/investments) or contacting your financial representative. For instructions on how to establish automatic withdrawals to sell shares in an IRA account, please call 1-800-373-9387 (inside the U.S. only) or contact your financial representative. See "Services for Fund Investors — Automatic Services."

## General Policies

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The fund and the fund's transfer agent are authorized to act on telephone or online instructions from any person representing himself or herself to be you and reasonably believed by the fund or the transfer agent to be genuine. You may be responsible for any fraudulent telephone or online order as long as the fund or the fund's transfer agent (as applicable) takes reasonable measures to confirm that the instructions are genuine. In addition, neither the fund nor the fund's transfer agent will be responsible for any account losses because of fraud if the fund or the fund's transfer agent (as applicable) reasonably believes that the person transacting business on your account is authorized to do so. Please take precautions to protect yourself from fraud. Keep your account information private, and immediately review any fund account statements that you receive. It is important that you contact the fund immediately about any transactions or changes to your account that you believe to be unauthorized.

The fund reserves the right to reject any purchase or exchange request in whole or in part. All shareholder services and privileges offered to shareholders may be modified or terminated at any time, except as otherwise stated in the fund's SAI. Please see the fund's SAI for additional information on buying and selling shares, privileges and other shareholder services.

If you invest through a financial intermediary (rather than directly through the fund), the policies may be different than those described herein. For example, banks, brokers, Retirement Plans, financial advisers and financial supermarkets may charge transaction fees and may set different minimum investments or limitations on buying or selling shares. Please consult your financial representative.

**The fund is designed for long-term investors.** Frequent purchases, redemptions and exchanges may disrupt portfolio management strategies and harm fund performance by diluting the value of fund shares and increasing brokerage and administrative costs. As a result, BNYIA and the fund's board have adopted a policy of discouraging excessive trading, short-term market timing and other abusive trading practices (frequent trading) that could adversely affect the fund or its operations. BNYIA and the fund will not enter into arrangements with any person or group to permit frequent trading.

The fund also reserves the right to:

- refuse any purchase or exchange request, including those from any individual or group who, in BNYIA's view, is likely to engage in frequent trading
- change or discontinue fund exchanges, or temporarily suspend exchanges during unusual market conditions
- change its minimum investment amount

More than four roundtrips within a rolling 12-month period generally is considered to be frequent trading. A roundtrip consists of an investment that is substantially liquidated within 60 days. Based on the facts and circumstances of the trades, the fund may also view as frequent trading a pattern of investments that are partially liquidated within 60 days.

Transactions made through the Automatic Withdrawal Plan, Auto-Exchange Privileges, automatic investment plans (including Automatic Asset Builder), automatic non-discretionary rebalancing programs and minimum required retirement distributions generally are not considered to be frequent trading. For Retirement Plans, generally only participant-initiated exchange transactions are subject to the roundtrip limit.

BNYIA monitors selected transactions to identify frequent trading. When its surveillance systems identify multiple roundtrips, BNYIA evaluates trading activity in the account for evidence of frequent trading. BNYIA considers the investor's trading history in other accounts under common ownership or control, in other funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds and BNY Mellon Funds Trust and, if known, in non-affiliated mutual funds and accounts under common control. These evaluations involve judgments that are inherently subjective, and while BNYIA seeks to apply the policy and procedures uniformly, it is possible that similar transactions may be treated differently. In all instances, BNYIA seeks to make these judgments to the best of its abilities in a manner that it believes is consistent with shareholder interests. If BNYIA concludes the account is likely to engage in frequent trading, BNYIA may cancel or revoke the purchase or exchange on the following business day. BNYIA may also temporarily or permanently bar such investor's future purchases into the fund in lieu of, or in addition to, canceling or revoking the trade. At its discretion, BNYIA may apply these restrictions across all accounts under common ownership, control or perceived affiliation.

Fund shares often are held through omnibus accounts maintained by financial intermediaries, such as brokers and Retirement Plan administrators, where the holdings of multiple shareholders, such as all the clients of a particular broker, are aggregated. BNYIA's ability to monitor the trading activity of investors whose shares are held in omnibus accounts is limited. However, the agreements between the distributor and financial intermediaries include obligations to comply with the terms of this prospectus and to provide BNYIA, upon request, with information concerning the trading activity of investors whose shares are held in omnibus accounts. If BNYIA determines that any such investor has engaged in frequent trading of fund shares, BNYIA may require the financial intermediary to restrict or prohibit future purchases or exchanges of fund shares by that investor.

Certain Retirement Plans and intermediaries that maintain omnibus accounts with the fund may have developed policies designed to control frequent trading that may differ from the fund's policy. At its sole discretion, the fund may permit such intermediaries to apply their own frequent trading policy. If you are investing in fund shares through a financial intermediary (or in the case of a Retirement Plan, your plan sponsor), please contact the financial intermediary for information on the frequent trading policies applicable to your account.

To the extent the fund significantly invests in foreign securities traded on markets that close before the fund calculates its NAV, events that influence the value of these foreign securities may occur after the close of these foreign markets and before the fund calculates its NAV. As a result, certain investors may seek to trade fund shares in an effort to benefit from their understanding of the value of these foreign securities at the time the fund calculates its NAV (referred to as price arbitrage). This type of frequent trading may dilute the value of fund shares held by other shareholders. The fund has adopted procedures designed to adjust closing market prices of foreign equity securities under certain circumstances to reflect what it believes to be their fair value. To the extent the fund significantly invests in thinly traded securities, certain investors may seek to trade fund shares in an effort to benefit from their understanding of the value of

these securities (referred to as price arbitrage). Any such frequent trading strategies may interfere with efficient management of the fund's portfolio to a greater degree than funds that invest in highly liquid securities, in part because the fund may have difficulty selling these portfolio securities at advantageous times or prices to satisfy large and/or frequent redemption requests. Any successful price arbitrage may also cause dilution in the value of fund shares held by other shareholders.

Although the fund's frequent trading and fair valuation policies and procedures are designed to discourage market timing and excessive trading, none of these tools alone, nor all of them together, completely eliminates the potential for frequent trading.

### **Small Account Policy**

If your account falls below \$500, the fund may ask you to increase your balance. If it is still below \$500 after 30 days, the fund may close your account and send you the proceeds.

### **Escheatment**

If your account is deemed "abandoned" or "unclaimed" under state law, the fund may be required to "escheat" or transfer the assets in your account to the applicable state's unclaimed property administration. The state may sell escheated shares and, if you subsequently seek to reclaim your proceeds of liquidation from the state, you may only be able to recover the amount received when the shares were sold. It is your responsibility to ensure that you maintain a correct address for your account, keep your account active by contacting the fund's transfer agent or distributor by mail or telephone or accessing your account through the fund's website at least once a year, and promptly cash all checks for dividends, capital gains and redemptions. The fund, the fund's transfer agent and BNYIA and its affiliates will not be liable to shareholders or their representatives for good faith compliance with state escheatment laws.

### **Distributions and Taxes**

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Each share class will generate a different dividend because each has different expenses. The fund earns dividends, interest and other income from its investments, and distributes this income (less expenses) to shareholders as dividends. The fund also realizes capital gains from its investments, and distributes these gains (less any losses) to shareholders as capital gain distributions. The fund normally pays dividends monthly and capital gain distributions, if any, annually. Fund dividends and capital gain distributions will be reinvested in the fund unless you or your financial intermediary instruct the fund otherwise. There are no fees or sales charges imposed by the fund on reinvestments.

Distributions paid by the fund are subject to federal income tax, and also may be subject to state or local tax (unless you are investing through an IRA, Retirement Plan or other U.S. tax-advantaged investment plan). For federal tax purposes, in general, certain fund distributions, including distributions of short-term capital gains, are taxable as ordinary income. Other fund distributions, including dividends from certain U.S. companies and certain foreign companies and distributions of long-term capital gains, generally are taxable as qualified dividends and capital gains, respectively.

High portfolio turnover and more volatile markets can result in significant taxable distributions to shareholders, regardless of whether their shares have increased in value. The tax status of any distribution generally is the same regardless of how long you have been in the fund and whether you reinvest your distributions or take them in cash.

If you buy shares of the fund when the fund has realized but not yet distributed income or capital gains, you will be "buying a dividend" by paying the full price for the shares and then receiving a portion back in the form of a taxable distribution.

Your sale of shares, including exchanges into other funds, may result in a capital gain or loss for tax purposes. A capital gain or loss on your investment in the fund generally is the difference between the cost of your shares and the amount you receive when you sell them.

The tax status of your distributions will be detailed in your annual tax statement from the fund. Because everyone's tax situation is unique, please consult your tax adviser before investing.

Annual year-end distribution estimates, if any, are expected to be available beginning in early October, and may be updated from time to time, at [www.bny.com/investments/taxcenter](http://www.bny.com/investments/taxcenter) or by calling 1-800-373-9387 (inside the U.S. only) or your financial representative.

### **Services for Fund Investors**

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The following services may be available to fund investors. If you purchase shares through a third party financial intermediary or in a Retirement Plan, the financial intermediary or Retirement Plan recordkeeper may impose different

restrictions on these services and privileges, or may not make them available at all. Consult a representative of your financial intermediary or Retirement Plan for further information.

## **Automatic Services**

Buying or selling shares automatically is easy with the services described below. With each service, you select a schedule and amount, subject to certain restrictions. For information, call 1-800-373-9387 (inside the U.S. only) or your financial representative.

**Automatic Asset Builder** permits you to purchase fund shares (minimum of \$100 and maximum of \$150,000 per transaction) at regular intervals selected by you. Fund shares are purchased by transferring funds from the bank account designated by you.

**Payroll Savings Plan** permits you to purchase fund shares (minimum of \$100 per transaction) automatically through a payroll deduction.

**Government Direct Deposit** permits you to purchase fund shares (minimum of \$100 and maximum of \$50,000 per transaction) automatically from your federal employment, Social Security or other regular federal government check.

**Dividend Sweep** permits you to automatically reinvest dividends and distributions from the fund in shares of the same class, or another class in which you are eligible to invest, of another fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds. However, if you hold fund shares through financial intermediary brokerage platforms, you may invest automatically your dividends and distributions from the fund only in shares of the same class of another fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds. Shares held through a Coverdell Education Savings Account sponsored by BNYIA or its affiliates are not eligible for this privilege.

**Auto-Exchange Privilege** permits you to exchange at regular intervals your fund shares for shares of the same class, or another class in which you are eligible to invest, of another fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds. However, if you hold fund shares through financial intermediary brokerage platforms, you may only exchange fund shares for shares of the same class of another fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds.

**Automatic Withdrawal Plan** permits you to make withdrawals (minimum of \$50) on a specific day each month, quarter or semi-annual or annual period, provided your account balance is at least \$5,000. Any CDSC will be waived, as long as the amount of any withdrawal does not exceed on an annual basis 12% of the greater of the account value at the time of the first withdrawal under the plan, or at the time of the subsequent withdrawal.

## **Fund Exchanges**

Generally, you can exchange shares worth \$500 or more (no minimum for Retirement Plans and IRAs sponsored by BNYIA or its affiliates) into shares of the same class, or another class in which you are eligible to invest, of another fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds. However, if you hold fund shares through financial intermediary brokerage platforms, you may only exchange fund shares for shares of the same class of another fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds. You can request your exchange by calling 1-800-373-9387 (inside the U.S. only) or your financial representative. If you are an Institutional Direct account holder, please contact your BNY relationship manager for instructions. Be sure to read the current prospectus for any fund into which you are exchanging before investing. Any new account established through an exchange generally will have the same privileges as your original account (as long as they are available). There is currently no fee for exchanges, although you may be charged a sales load when exchanging into any fund that has one.

Your exchange request will be processed on the same business day it is received in proper form, provided that each fund is open at the time of the request (i.e., the request is received by the latest time each fund calculates its NAV for that business day). If the exchange is accepted at a time of day after one or both of the funds is closed (i.e., at a time after the NAV for the fund has been calculated for that business day), the exchange will be processed on the next business day. See the SAI for more information regarding exchanges.

## **Conversion Feature**

Shares of one class of the fund may be converted into shares of another class of the fund, provided you meet the eligibility requirements for investing in the new share class. Except as otherwise disclosed in this prospectus, shares subject to a CDSC at the time of the requested conversion are not eligible for conversion. The fund reserves the right to refuse any conversion request. Class C shares purchased directly from the fund or through a financial intermediary, except as otherwise disclosed in this prospectus, automatically convert to Class A shares in the month of or month following the eight-year anniversary date of the purchase of the Class C shares, based on the relative NAV of each such class without the imposition of any sales charge, fee or other charge.

## **Wire Redemption and TeleTransfer Privileges**

To redeem shares from your fund account with a phone call (for regular or IRA accounts) or online (for regular accounts only), use the Wire Redemption Privilege or the TeleTransfer Privilege. To purchase additional shares in your fund account with a phone call (for regular or IRA accounts) or online (for regular accounts only), use the TeleTransfer Privilege. You can set up the Wire Redemption Privilege and TeleTransfer Privilege on your account by providing bank account information and following the instructions on your application or, if your account has already been established, a Shareholder Services Form which you can obtain by calling 1-800-373-9387 (inside the U.S. only), visiting [www.bny.com/investments](http://www.bny.com/investments) or contacting your financial representative. Shares held in a Coverdell Education Savings Account may not be redeemed through the Wire Redemption or TeleTransfer Privileges. Institutional Direct accounts are not eligible for the Wire Redemption or TeleTransfer Privileges initiated online.

## **Account Statements**

Every investor in a fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds automatically receives regular account statements. You will also be sent a yearly statement detailing the tax characteristics of any dividends and distributions you have received.

## **Reinvestment Privilege**

If you redeem Class A shares of the fund, you can reinvest in the same account of the fund up to the number of Class A shares you redeemed at the current share price without paying a sales charge. If you paid a CDSC, it will be credited back to your account. This privilege may be used only once and your reinvestment request must be received in writing by the fund within 45 days of the redemption.

## **Checkwriting Privilege**

You may write redemption checks against your account for Class A shares in amounts of \$500 or more. These checks are free; however, a fee will be charged if you request a stop payment or if the transfer agent cannot honor a redemption check due to insufficient funds or another valid reason. Please do not postdate your checks or use them to close your account. If you request checkwriting privileges, allow approximately two weeks after the fund's receipt of your initial investment for receipt of your checkbook.

By requesting checkwriting privileges, you agree that you will use care in safeguarding unsigned checks against theft or unauthorized use and will inform the fund or the fund's transfer agent if any of your checks are stolen or missing, and that you will not use unmonitored, uncontrolled check stock sourced by you. You further agree that you will be responsible for maintaining security over any device used for your signature, such as a facsimile signature, stamp or other device, and you acknowledge that any signature made on a check using any such device will be effective as your signature, irrespective of whether the person affixing it was authorized to do so. You acknowledge that if you voluntarily provide information about your account, such as the account number and the bank's routing and transit number, to any person in connection with your purchase of goods or services or to a person who is trying to collect a payment from you, any debit related to your account initiated by that person will be deemed to have been authorized by you.

By requesting checkwriting privileges, you further agree that you will promptly review your account statements and other information sent to you by the fund as soon as you receive it. If you believe any statement you receive contains an error or includes an unauthorized, forged, or altered check, you agree to notify the fund or the fund's transfer agent immediately in writing. You must report any errors or irregularities to the fund or the fund's transfer agent within thirty (30) days from the date of the statement you receive and must identify the particular items that you consider to contain an error or to be forged, altered or otherwise unauthorized. If you do not notify the fund or the fund's transfer agent within the required period of time, your account statement will be deemed to be correct and all items properly charged, and you will be precluded from recovering any amounts that you later claim were unauthorized with respect to a payment reflected on that statement. You further agree that neither the fund nor the fund's transfer agent will be liable if you fail to exercise ordinary care in examining your statements. The fund or the fund's transfer agent have the right to assert any legally available defenses to any claim you may assert regarding items paid from your account.

## **Express Voice-Activated Account Access System**

You can check your account balances, get fund price and performance information, order documents and much more, by calling 1-800-373-9387 (inside the U.S. only) and using the Express voice-activated account access system. You may also be able to purchase fund shares and/or transfer money between your funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds using the Express voice-activated account access system. Certain requests require the services of a representative.

## Financial Highlights

These financial highlights describe the performance of the fund's shares for the fiscal periods indicated. "Total return" shows how much your investment in the fund would have increased (or decreased) during each period, assuming you had reinvested all dividends and distributions. These financial highlights have been derived from the fund's financial statements, which have been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, whose report, along with the fund's financial statements, is included in the fund's Form N-CSR, which is available upon request.

Class A Shares	Year Ended December 31,				
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Per Share Data (\$):</b>					
Net asset value, beginning of period	5.36	5.12	6.11	6.15	6.18
Investment Operations:					
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.37	.35	.28	.27	.29
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	.03	.25	(.99)	(.01)	(.02)
Total from Investment Operations	.40	.60	(.71)	.26	.27
Distributions:					
Dividends from net investment income	(.38)	(.36)	(.28)	(.29)	(.30)
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	-	-	-	(.01)	-
Total Distributions	(.38)	(.36)	(.28)	(.30)	(.30)
Net asset value, end of period	5.38	5.36	5.12	6.11	6.15
<b>Total Return (%)<sup>b</sup></b>	7.71	12.26	(11.76)	4.33	4.77
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):</b>					
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	.96	.97	.96	.96	.96
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	6.96	6.81	5.14	4.42	4.91
Portfolio Turnover Rate	114.37	128.77	90.51	101.26	122.11
<b>Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)</b>	89,760	102,274	98,815	116,626	124,720

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>b</sup> Exclusive of sales charge.

Class C Shares	Year Ended December 31,				
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Per Share Data (\$):</b>					
Net asset value, beginning of period	5.36	5.12	6.11	6.15	6.18
Investment Operations:					
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.33	.31	.24	.22	.25
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	.03	.26	(.99)	(.01)	(.02)
Total from Investment Operations	.36	.57	(.75)	.21	.23
Distributions:					
Dividends from net investment income	(.34)	(.33)	(.24)	(.24)	(.26)
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	-	-	-	(.01)	-
Total Distributions	(.34)	(.33)	(.24)	(.25)	(.26)
Net asset value, end of period	5.38	5.36	5.12	6.11	6.15
<b>Total Return (%)<sup>b</sup></b>	6.91	11.43	(12.42)	3.55	3.99
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):</b>					
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.71	1.72	1.71	1.71	1.71
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.70
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	6.21	6.09	4.38	3.71	4.24
Portfolio Turnover Rate	114.37	128.77	90.51	101.26	122.11
<b>Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)</b>	2,280	2,511	2,646	3,935	6,567

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>b</sup> Exclusive of sales charge.

## Financial Highlights (continued)

Class I Shares	<i>Year Ended December 31,</i>				
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Per Share Data (\$):</b>					
Net asset value, beginning of period	5.36	5.13	6.12	6.15	6.19
Investment Operations:					
Net investment income <sup>a</sup>	.39	.37	.30	.29	.30
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	.03	.24	(1.00)	(.01)	(.02)
Total from Investment Operations	.42	.61	(.70)	.28	.28
Distributions:					
Dividends from net investment income	(.39)	(.38)	(.29)	(.30)	(.32)
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	-	-	-	(.01)	-
Total Distributions	(.39)	(.38)	(.29)	(.31)	(.32)
Net asset value, end of period	5.39	5.36	5.13	6.12	6.15
<b>Total Return (%)</b>	8.18	12.32	(11.51)	4.76	4.86
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):</b>					
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	.71	.72	.71	.71	.71
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	7.20	7.09	5.40	4.67	5.10
Portfolio Turnover Rate	114.37	128.77	90.51	101.26	122.11
<b>Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)</b>	461,653	489,677	504,963	961,674	973,861

<sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

## APPENDIX

### Sales Charge Reductions and Waivers Available from Certain Financial Intermediaries

The availability of certain sales charge reductions and waivers will depend on whether you purchase fund shares directly from the fund or through a financial intermediary. Financial intermediaries may have different policies and procedures regarding the availability of front-end sales load reductions or waivers or CDSC waivers, which are described below. In all instances, it is the investor's responsibility to notify the fund or the investor's financial intermediary at the time of purchase of any relationship or other facts qualifying the investor for sales charge reductions or waivers. For reductions or waivers not available through a particular financial intermediary, investors will have to purchase fund shares directly from the fund or through another financial intermediary to receive these reductions or waivers.

#### Ameriprise Financial

Shareholders purchasing fund shares through an Ameriprise Financial platform or account are eligible only for the following sales charge reductions and waivers, which can differ from the sales charge reductions and waivers described elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI or through another financial intermediary. In all instances, it is the shareholder's responsibility to inform Ameriprise Financial at the time of purchase of any relationship, holdings of BNY Mellon Family of Funds or other facts qualifying the purchaser for sales charge reductions or waivers.

#### Front-end sales charge reductions on Class A shares purchased through Ameriprise Financial

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through an Ameriprise Financial platform or account can reduce their initial sales charge in the following ways:

- *Transaction size breakpoints*, as described in this prospectus and SAI.
- *Rights of accumulation (ROA)*, as described in this prospectus and SAI.
- *Letter of intent*, as described in this prospectus and SAI.

#### Front-end sales charge waivers on Class A shares purchased through Ameriprise Financial

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through an Ameriprise Financial platform or account may purchase Class A shares at NAV without payment of a sales charge as follows:

- shares purchased by employer-sponsored retirement plans (e.g., 401(k) plans, 457 plans, employer-sponsored 403(b) plans, profit sharing and money purchase pension plans and defined benefit plans). For purposes of this provision, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP IRAs, Simple IRAs or SAR-SEPs
- shares of the fund purchased through reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions of the fund (but not any other fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds)
- shares exchanged from Class C shares of the same fund in the month of or following the seven-year anniversary of the purchase date. To the extent that this prospectus elsewhere provides for a waiver with respect to such shares following a shorter holding period, that waiver will apply to exchanges following such shorter period. To the extent that this prospectus elsewhere provides for a waiver with respect to exchanges of Class C shares for load waived shares, that waiver will also apply to such exchanges
- shares purchased by employees and registered representatives of Ameriprise Financial or its affiliates and their immediate family members
- shares purchased by or through qualified accounts (including IRAs, Coverdell Education Savings Accounts, 401(k)s, 403(b) TSCAs subject to ERISA and defined benefit plans) that are held by a covered family member, defined as an Ameriprise Financial advisor and/or the advisor's spouse, advisor's lineal ascendant (mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, great grandmother, great grandfather), advisor's lineal descendant (son, step-son, daughter, step-daughter, grandson, granddaughter, great grandson, great granddaughter) or any spouse of a covered family member who is a lineal descendant
- shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions of shares of a fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds, provided (1) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (2) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (3) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end sales charge or CDSC (i.e., Right of Reinstatement)

## **CDSC waivers on Class A and C shares purchased through Ameriprise Financial**

The fund's CDSC on Class A and C shares may be waived for shares purchased through an Ameriprise Financial platform or account in the following cases:

- redemptions due to death or disability of the shareholder
- shares sold as part of a systematic withdrawal plan as described in this prospectus or the SAI
- redemptions made in connection with a return of excess contributions from an IRA account
- shares purchased through a Right of Reinstatement (as defined above)
- redemptions made as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code

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## **Edward Jones**

Clients of Edward D. Jones & Co., L.P. (Edward Jones) purchasing fund shares on the Edward Jones commission and fee-based platforms are eligible only for the following sales charge reductions and waivers, which can differ from the sales charge reductions and waivers described elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI or through another financial intermediary. In all instances, it is the shareholder's responsibility to inform Edward Jones at the time of purchase of any relationship, holdings of BNY Mellon Family of Funds, or other facts qualifying the purchaser for sales charge reductions or waivers. Edward Jones can ask for documentation of such circumstance. Shareholders should contact Edward Jones if they have questions regarding their eligibility for these discounts and waivers.

### **Front-end sales charge reductions on Class A shares purchased on the Edward Jones commission and fee-based platforms**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund on the Edward Jones commission and fee-based platforms can reduce their initial sales charge in the following ways:

- *Transaction size breakpoints*, as described in this prospectus.
- *Rights of accumulation (ROA)*, which entitle shareholders to breakpoint discounts as described in this prospectus, will be calculated based on the aggregated holdings of shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds (except certain money market funds and any assets held in group retirement plans) held by the purchaser or in an account grouped by Edward Jones with other accounts for the purpose of providing certain pricing considerations ("pricing groups") and, if grouping assets as a shareholder, includes all share classes of such funds held on the Edward Jones platform and/or held on another platform. Shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds may be included in the ROA calculation only if the shareholder notifies Edward Jones about such shares. Money market funds are included only if such shares were sold with a sales charge at the time of purchase or acquired in exchange for shares purchased with a sales charge. The employer maintaining a SEP IRA plan and/or SIMPLE IRA plan may elect to establish or change ROA for the IRA accounts associated with the plan to a plan-level grouping as opposed to including all share classes at a shareholder or pricing group level. For purposes of determining the value of a shareholder's aggregated holdings, eligible shares held will be valued at the higher of their cost minus redemptions or current market value.
- *Letter of intent (LOI)*, which allows for breakpoint discounts as described in this prospectus, based on anticipated purchases of shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds purchased over a 13-month period from the date Edward Jones receives the LOI. Eligible shares purchased pursuant to a LOI will be valued at the higher of their cost or current market value for purposes of determining the front-end sales charge and any breakpoint discounts with respect to such share purchases. Each purchase a shareholder makes pursuant to a LOI during the 13-month period will receive the front-end sales charge and breakpoint discount that applies to the total amount indicated in the LOI. Shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds may be included in the LOI calculation only if the shareholder notifies Edward Jones about such shares at the time of calculation. Shares purchased before the LOI is received by Edward Jones are not adjusted under the LOI and will not reduce the sales charge previously paid by the shareholder. The sales charge will be adjusted if the shareholder does not meet the goal indicated in the LOI. If the employer maintaining a SEP IRA plan and/or SIMPLE IRA plan has elected to establish or change ROA for the IRA accounts associated with the plan to a plan-level grouping, LOIs will also be at the plan-level and may only be established by the employer.

### **Front-end sales charge waivers on Class A shares purchased on the Edward Jones commission and fee-based platforms**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund on the Edward Jones commission and fee-based platforms may purchase Class A shares at NAV without payment of a sales charge as follows:

- shares purchased by associates of Edward Jones and its affiliates and other accounts in the same pricing group (as determined by Edward Jones under its policies and procedures) as the associate. This waiver will continue for the remainder of the associate's life if the associate retires from Edward Jones in good-standing and remains in good standing pursuant to Edward Jones' policies and procedures
- shares purchased in an Edward Jones fee-based program
- shares purchased through reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions of the fund
- shares purchased from the proceeds of redeemed shares of a fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds, provided that (1) the proceeds are from the redemption of shares within 60 days of the purchase, and (2) the redemption and purchase are made in a share class that charges a front-end sales charge, subject to one of the following conditions being met ("Right of Reinstatement"):
  - the redemption and repurchase occur in the same account
  - the redemption proceeds are used to process an IRA contribution, excess contributions, conversion, recharacterizing of contributions, or distribution, and the repurchase is done in an account within the same Edward Jones grouping for ROA

The Right of Reinstatement excludes systematic or automatic transactions including, but not limited to, purchases made through payroll deductions, liquidations to cover account fees, and reinvestments from non-mutual fund products.

- shares exchanged into Class A shares from another share class so long as the exchange is into the same fund and was initiated at the discretion of Edward Jones. Edward Jones is responsible for any CDSC due, if applicable. Any future purchases are subject to the applicable sales charge as disclosed in this prospectus
- exchanges from Class C shares to Class A shares of the same fund, generally, in the 84<sup>th</sup> month following the anniversary of the purchase date or earlier at the discretion of Edward Jones
- purchases of Class A shares for a 529 plan account through a rollover from either another education savings plan or a security used for qualified distributions
- purchases of Class A shares for a 529 plan account made for recontribution of refunded amounts

#### **CDSC waivers on Class A and C shares purchased on the Edward Jones commission and fee-based platforms**

The fund's CDSC on Class A and C shares may be waived for shares purchased on the Edward Jones commission and fee-based platforms in the following cases:

- redemptions made upon the death or disability of the shareholder
- redemptions made through a systematic withdrawal plan, if such redemptions do not exceed 10% of the value of the account annually
- redemptions made in connection with a return of excess contributions from an IRA account
- redemptions made as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts if the redemption is taken in or after the year the shareholder reaches qualified age based on applicable IRS regulations
- redemptions made to pay Edward Jones fees or costs, but only if the redemption is initiated by Edward Jones
- shares exchanged in an Edward Jones fee-based program
- shares acquired through a Right of Reinstatement (as defined above)
- shares redeemed at the discretion of Edward Jones for accounts not meeting Edward Jones' minimum balance requirements described below

#### **Other important information for clients of Edward Jones who purchase fund shares on the Edward Jones commission and fee-based platforms**

Minimum Purchase Amounts

- Initial purchase minimum: \$250
- Subsequent purchase minimum: none

## Minimum Balances

- Edward Jones has the right to redeem at its discretion fund holdings with a balance of \$250 or less. The following are examples of accounts that are not included in this policy:
  - A fee-based account held on an Edward Jones platform
  - A 529 account held on an Edward Jones platform
  - An account with an active systematic investment plan or LOI

## Exchanging Share Classes

- At any time it deems necessary, Edward Jones has the authority to exchange at NAV a shareholder's holdings in a fund to Class A shares of the same fund. Edward Jones is responsible for any CDSC due, if applicable. Any future purchases are subject to the applicable sales charge as disclosed in this prospectus.

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## Janney Montgomery Scott LLC (Janney)

Shareholders purchasing fund shares through a Janney Montgomery Scott LLC (Janney) brokerage account are eligible only for the following sales charge reductions and waivers, which can differ from the sales charge reductions and waivers described elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI or through another financial intermediary. In all instances, it is the shareholder's responsibility to inform Janney at the time of purchase of any relationship, holdings of BNY Mellon Family of Funds or other facts qualifying the purchaser for sales charge reductions or waivers.

### Front-end sales charge reductions on Class A shares purchased through a Janney brokerage account

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through a Janney brokerage account can reduce their initial sales charge in the following ways:

- *Transaction size breakpoints*, as described in this prospectus.
- *Rights of accumulation (ROA)*, which entitle shareholders to breakpoint discounts as described in this prospectus, will be automatically calculated based on the aggregated holdings of shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds held in accounts of the purchaser and the purchaser's household members at Janney. Shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds not held in Janney accounts of the purchaser or the purchaser's household members may be included in the ROA calculation only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial advisor about such shares.
- *Letter of intent*, which allows for breakpoint discounts as described in this prospectus, based on anticipated purchases of shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds purchased over a 13-month period. Shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds not held in Janney accounts of the purchaser or the purchaser's household members may be included in the letter of intent calculation only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial advisor about such shares.

### Front-end sales charge waivers on Class A shares purchased through a Janney brokerage account

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through a Janney brokerage account may purchase Class A shares at NAV without payment of a sales charge as follows:

- shares purchased through reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions of the fund (but not of any other fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds)
- shares purchased by employees and registered representatives of Janney or its affiliates and their family members as designated by Janney
- shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions of shares of a fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds, provided (1) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (2) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (3) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end sales charge or CDSC (i.e., Right of Reinstatement)
- shares purchased by employer-sponsored retirement plans (e.g., 401(k) plans, 457 plans, 403(b) plans, profit-sharing and money purchase pension plans and deferred benefit plans). For purposes of this provision, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP-IRAs, SARSEPs, SIMPLE IRAs or Keogh plans
- Class C shares that are no longer subject to a CDSC and are converted to Class A shares of the same fund pursuant to Janney's policies and procedures

### CDSC waivers on Class A and C shares purchased through a Janney brokerage account

The fund's CDSC on Class A and C shares may be waived for shares purchased through a Janney brokerage account in the following cases:

- redemptions made upon the death or disability of the shareholder
- redemptions made through the Automatic Withdrawal Plan as described in this prospectus
- redemptions made in connection with a return of excess contributions from an IRA account
- redemptions made as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code
- redemptions made to pay Janney fees, but only if the redemption is initiated by Janney
- shares acquired through a Right of Reinstatement (as defined above)
- exchanges of shares for shares of the same class of a different fund, except if shares acquired by exchange are then redeemed within the period during which a CDSC would apply to the initial shares purchased

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### **J.P. Morgan Securities LLC**

Shareholders purchasing fund shares through a J.P. Morgan Securities LLC brokerage account that makes funds with front-end sales charges available for purchase are eligible only for the following sales charge reductions and waivers, which can differ from the sales charge reductions and waivers described elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI or through another financial intermediary. In all instances, it is the shareholder's responsibility to inform J.P. Morgan Securities LLC at the time of purchase of any relationship, holdings of BNY Mellon Family of Funds, or other facts qualifying the purchaser for sales charge reductions or waivers.

#### **Front-end sales charge reductions on Class A shares purchased through a J.P. Morgan Securities LLC brokerage account**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through an applicable J.P. Morgan Securities LLC brokerage account can reduce their initial sales charge in the following ways:

- *Transaction size breakpoints*, as described in this prospectus.
- *Rights of accumulation (ROA)*, which entitle shareholders to breakpoint discounts as described in this prospectus, will be automatically calculated based on the aggregated holdings of shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds held by accounts within the purchaser's household at J.P. Morgan Securities LLC. Eligible funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds not held at J.P. Morgan Securities LLC (including 529 program holdings, where applicable) may be included in the ROA calculation only if the shareholder notifies their financial advisor about such assets.
- *Letters of intent (LOI)*, which allows for breakpoint discounts as described in this prospectus, based on anticipated purchases of shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds through J.P. Morgan Securities LLC over a 13-month period of time. Eligible funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds not held at J.P. Morgan Securities LLC (including 529 program holdings, where applicable) may be included in the LOI calculation only if the shareholder notifies their financial advisor about such assets.

#### **Front-end sales charge waivers on Class A shares purchased through a J.P. Morgan Securities LLC brokerage account**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through an applicable J.P. Morgan Securities LLC brokerage account may purchase Class A shares at NAV without payment of a sales charge as follows:

- Class C shares that are no longer subject to a CDSC and are converted to Class A shares of the same fund pursuant to J.P. Morgan Securities LLC's policies and procedures
- shares purchased by qualified employer-sponsored defined contribution and defined benefit retirement plans, nonqualified deferred compensation plans, other employee benefit plans and trusts used to fund those plans. For purposes of this provision, such plans do not include SEP IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs, SAR-SEPs or 501(c)(3) accounts
- shares purchased through J.P. Morgan Securities LLC Self-Directed Investing accounts

- shares purchased through a right of reinstatement, as described in this prospectus (Right of Reinstatement)
- shares of the fund purchased through reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions of the fund (but not of any other fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds)
- shares purchased by employees and registered representatives of J.P. Morgan Securities LLC or its affiliates and their spouses or financial dependents

**CDSC waivers on Class A and C shares purchased through a J.P. Morgan Securities LLC brokerage account**

The fund's CDSC on Class A and C shares may be waived for shares purchased through an applicable J.P. Morgan Securities LLC brokerage account in the following cases:

- redemptions made upon the death or disability of the shareholder
- redemptions made as part of a systematic withdrawal plan as described in this prospectus
- redemptions of shares purchased in connection with a return of excess contributions from an IRA account
- redemptions made as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code
- shares acquired through a Right of Reinstatement (as defined above)

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**Merrill**

Purchases or sales of front-end (i.e., Class A) or level-load (i.e., Class C) mutual fund shares through a Merrill platform or account are eligible only for the following sales load waivers (front-end or CDSC) and discounts, which differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this prospectus. Purchasers will have to buy mutual fund shares directly from the mutual fund company or through another intermediary to be eligible for waivers or discounts not listed below.

It is the client's responsibility to notify Merrill at the time of purchase or sale of any relationship or other facts that qualify the transaction for a waiver or discount. A Merrill representative may ask for reasonable documentation of such facts and Merrill may condition the granting of a waiver or discount on the timely receipt of such documentation. Additional information on waivers or discounts is available in the Merrill Sales Load Waiver and Discounts Supplement (the "Merrill SLWD Supplement") and in the Mutual Fund Investing at Merrill pamphlet at [ml.com/funds](http://ml.com/funds). Clients are encouraged to review these documents and speak with their financial advisor to determine whether a transaction is eligible for a waiver or discount.

**Front-end sales charge waivers on Class A shares purchased through Merrill**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through a Merrill platform or account are eligible only for the following sales charge waivers, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI. Such shareholders may purchase Class A shares at NAV without payment of a sales charge as follows:

- shares of mutual funds available for purchase by employer-sponsored retirement, deferred compensation and employee benefit plans (including health savings accounts) and trusts used to fund those plans provided that the shares are not held in a commission-based brokerage account and shares are held for the benefit of the plan. For purposes of this provision, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP IRAs, Simple IRAs, SAR-SEPs or Keogh plans
- shares purchased through a Merrill investment advisory program
- brokerage class shares exchanged from advisory class shares due to the holdings moving from a Merrill investment advisory program to a Merrill brokerage account
- shares purchased through the Merrill Edge Self-Directed platform
- shares purchased through the systematic reinvestment of capital gains distributions and dividend reinvestment when purchasing shares of the same mutual fund in the same account
- shares exchanged from level-load shares to front-end load shares of the same mutual fund in accordance with the description in the Merrill SLWD Supplement
- shares purchased by eligible employees of Merrill or its affiliates and their family members who purchase shares in accounts within the employee's Merrill Household (as defined in the Merrill SLWD Supplement)

- shares purchased by eligible persons associated with the fund as defined in this prospectus (e.g., the fund's officers or trustees)
- shares purchased from the proceeds of a mutual fund redemption in front-end load shares, provided (1) the repurchase is in a mutual fund within the same fund family, (2) the repurchase occurs within 90 calendar days from the redemption trade date, and (3) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account (known as Rights of Reinstatement). Automated transactions (i.e., systematic purchases and withdrawals) and purchases made after shares are automatically sold to pay Merrill's account maintenance fees are not eligible for Rights of Reinstatement

#### **CDSC waivers on Class A and C shares purchased through Merrill**

Fund shares purchased through a Merrill platform or account are eligible only for the following CDSC waivers, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI:

- shares sold due to the client's death or disability (as defined by Internal Revenue Code Section 22(e)(3))
- shares sold pursuant to a systematic withdrawal program subject to Merrill's maximum systematic withdrawal limits, as described in the Merrill SLWD Supplement
- shares sold due to return of excess contributions from an IRA account
- shares sold as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts due to the investor reaching the qualified age based on applicable IRS regulation
- front-end or level-load shares held in commission-based, non-taxable retirement brokerage accounts (e.g., traditional, Roth, rollover, SEP IRAs, Simple IRAs, SAR-SEPs or Keogh plans) that are transferred to fee-based accounts or platforms and exchanged for a lower cost share class of the same mutual fund.

#### **Front-end sales charge reductions on Class A shares purchased through Merrill**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through a Merrill platform or account are eligible only for the following sales charge reductions (i.e., discounts), which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI. Such shareholders can reduce their initial sales charge in the following ways:

- *Breakpoint discounts*, as described in this prospectus, where the sales load is at or below the maximum sales load that Merrill permits to be assessed to a front-end load purchase, as described in the Merrill SLWD Supplement.
- *Rights of accumulation (ROA)*, as described in the Merrill SLWD Supplement, which entitle clients to breakpoint discounts based on the aggregated holdings of mutual fund family assets held in accounts in their Merrill Household.
- *Letters of Intent (LOI)*, which allow for breakpoint discounts on eligible new purchases based on anticipated future eligible purchases within a fund family at Merrill, in accounts within your Merrill Household, as further described in the Merrill SLWD Supplement.

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#### **Morgan Stanley Wealth Management**

##### **Front-end sales charge waivers on Class A shares purchased through Morgan Stanley Wealth Management**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through a Morgan Stanley Wealth Management transactional brokerage account are eligible only for the following sales charge waivers, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI. Such shareholders may purchase Class A shares at NAV without payment of a sales charge as follows:

- shares purchased by employer-sponsored retirement plans (e.g., 401(k) plans, 457 plans, employer-sponsored 403(b) plans, profit sharing and money purchase pension plans and defined benefit plans). For purposes of this provision, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP IRAs, Simple IRAs, SAR-SEPs or Keogh plans
- shares purchased by Morgan Stanley employee and employee-related accounts according to Morgan Stanley's account linking rules
- shares of the fund purchased through reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions of the fund
- shares purchased through a Morgan Stanley self-directed brokerage account
- Class C shares that are no longer subject to a CDSC and are converted to Class A shares of the same fund pursuant to Morgan Stanley Wealth Management's share class conversion program

- shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions from a fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds, provided (1) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (2) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (3) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end sales charge or CDSC

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## **Oppenheimer & Co. Inc. (OPCO)**

### **Front-end sales charge reductions on Class A shares purchased through an OPCO platform or account**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through an OPCO platform or account can reduce their initial sales charge in the following ways:

- *Transaction size breakpoints*, as described in this prospectus.
- *Rights of accumulation (ROA)*, which entitle shareholders to breakpoint discounts as described in this prospectus, will be automatically calculated based on the aggregated holdings of shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds held by accounts within the purchaser's household at OPCO. Shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds not held at OPCO may be included in the ROA calculation only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial advisor about such assets.
- *Letter of intent*. You can sign a letter of intent, in which you agree to invest a certain amount (your goal) over a 13-month period in shares of the fund and other funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds that are subject to a sales charge, and your initial sales charge will be based on your goal. A 90-day back-dated period can also be used to count previous purchases toward your goal. Your goal must be at least \$50,000, and your initial investment must be at least \$5,000. Each purchase will be made at the public offering price applicable to a single transaction of the dollar amount specified in the letter of intent. The sales charge will be adjusted if you do not meet your goal. By signing a letter of intent, you authorize the fund's transfer agent to hold in escrow 5% of the amount indicated in the letter of intent and redeem Class A shares in your account to pay the additional sales charge if the letter of intent goal is not met prior to the expiration of the 13-month period. See "Additional Information About Shareholder Services" in the SAI.

### **Front-end sales charge waivers on Class A shares purchased through an OPCO platform or account**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through an OPCO platform or account may purchase Class A shares at NAV without payment of a sales charge as follows:

- shares purchased by employer-sponsored retirement, deferred compensation and employee benefit plans (including health savings accounts) and trusts used to fund those plans, provided that the shares are not held in a commission-based brokerage account and shares are held for the benefit of the plan
- shares purchased by or through a 529 plan
- shares purchased through an OPCO affiliated investment advisory program
- shares purchased through reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions when purchasing shares of the fund (but not of any other fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds)
- shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions of shares of a fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds, provided (1) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (2) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (3) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end sales charge or CDSC (i.e., Right of Reinstatement)
- a shareholder in the fund's Class C shares will have their shares converted at NAV to Class A shares (or the appropriate share class) of the fund if the shares are no longer subject to a CDSC and the conversion is in line with the policies and procedures of OPCO
- shares purchased by employees and registered representatives of OPCO or its affiliates and their family members
- board members of the fund, and employees of the fund's investment adviser or any of its affiliates, as described in this prospectus

### **CDSC waivers on Class A and C shares purchased through an OPCO platform or account**

The fund's CDSC on Class A and C shares may be waived for shares purchased through an OPCO platform or account in the following cases:

- redemptions made upon the death or disability of the shareholder
- redemptions made through the Automatic Withdrawal Plan as described in this prospectus

- redemptions made in connection with a return of excess contributions from an IRA account
- redemptions made as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code
- redemptions made to pay OPCO fees, but only if the redemption is initiated by OPCO
- shares acquired through a Right of Reinstatement (as defined above)

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**Raymond James & Associates, Inc., Raymond James Financial Services or Raymond James affiliates (Raymond James)**

**Front-end sales charge reductions on Class A shares purchased through Raymond James**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through a Raymond James platform or account, or through an introducing broker-dealer or independent registered investment adviser for which Raymond James provides trade execution, clearance and/or custody services, are eligible only for the following sales charge reductions, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI. Such shareholders can reduce their initial sales charge in the following ways:

- *Transaction size breakpoints*, as described in this prospectus.
- *Rights of accumulation (ROA)*, which entitle shareholders to breakpoint discounts as described in this prospectus, will be automatically calculated based on the aggregated holdings of shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds held in accounts of the purchaser and the purchaser's household members at Raymond James. Shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds not held in accounts of the purchaser's household members at Raymond James may be included in the ROA calculation only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial advisor about such shares.
- *Letter of intent*, which allows for breakpoint discounts based on anticipated purchases within the BNY Mellon Family of Funds over a 13-month time period. Shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds not held at Raymond James may be included in the calculation of letters of intent only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial advisor about such shares.

**Front-end sales charge waivers on Class A shares purchased through Raymond James**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through a Raymond James platform or account, or through an introducing broker-dealer or independent registered investment adviser for which Raymond James provides trade execution, clearance and/or custody services, are eligible only for the following sales charge waivers, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI. Such shareholders may purchase Class A shares at NAV without payment of a sales charge as follows:

- shares purchased through a Raymond James investment advisory program
- shares purchased within the BNY Mellon Family of Funds, including shares of the fund, through a systematic reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions of the fund
- shares purchased by employees and registered representatives of Raymond James and their family members as designated by Raymond James
- shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions of shares of a fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds, provided (1) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (2) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (3) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end sales charge or CDSC (i.e., Right of Reinstatement)
- Class C shares that are no longer subject to a CDSC and are converted to Class A shares of the same fund pursuant to Raymond James' share class conversion policies and procedures

**CDSC waivers on Class A and C shares purchased through Raymond James**

Fund shares purchased through a Raymond James platform or account, or through an introducing broker-dealer or independent registered investment adviser for which Raymond James provides trade execution, clearance and/or custody services, are eligible only for the following CDSC waivers, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI:

- redemptions made within one year of death or disability of the shareholder
- redemptions made through the Automatic Withdrawal Plan, if such redemptions do not exceed 12% of the value of the account annually

- redemptions made in connection with a return of excess contributions from an IRA account
- redemptions made as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code
- redemptions made to pay Raymond James fees, but only if the redemption is initiated by Raymond James
- shares acquired through a Right of Reinstatement (as defined above)
- exchanges of shares, except if shares acquired by exchange are then redeemed within the period during which a CDSC would apply to the initial shares purchased

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## **Robert W. Baird & Co. (Baird)**

### **Front-end sales charge reductions on Class A shares purchased through a Baird platform or account**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through a Baird platform or account can reduce their initial sales charge in the following ways:

- *Transaction size breakpoints*, as described in this prospectus.
- *Rights of accumulation (ROA)*, which entitle shareholders to breakpoint discounts as described in this prospectus, will be automatically calculated based on the aggregated holdings of shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds held in accounts of the purchaser and the purchaser's household members at Baird. Shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds not held in Baird accounts of the purchaser or the purchaser's household members may be included in the ROA calculation only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial advisor about such shares.
- *Letter of intent*, which allows for breakpoint discounts as described in this prospectus, based on anticipated purchases of shares of funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds purchased over a 13-month period of time.

### **Front-end sales charge waivers on Class A shares purchased through a Baird platform or account**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through a Baird platform or account may purchase Class A shares at NAV without payment of a sales charge as follows:

- shares purchased through reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions when purchasing shares of the fund (but not of any other fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds)
- shares purchased by employees and registered representatives of Baird or its affiliates and their family members as designated by Baird
- shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions of shares of a fund in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds, provided (1) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (2) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (3) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end sales charge or CDSC (i.e., Right of Reinstatement)
- shares purchased by employer-sponsored retirement plans or charitable accounts in a transactional brokerage account at Baird, including 401(k) plans, 457 plans, employer-sponsored 403(b) plans, profit sharing and money purchase pension plans and defined benefit plans. For purposes of this provision, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP IRAs, Simple IRAs or SAR-SEPs
- Class C shares that are no longer subject to a CDSC and are converted to Class A shares of the same fund pursuant to Baird's policies and procedures

### **CDSC waivers on Class A shares purchased through a Baird platform or account**

The fund's CDSC on Class A shares may be waived for shares purchased through a Baird platform or account in the following cases:

- redemptions made upon the death or disability of the shareholder
- redemptions made through the Automatic Withdrawal Plan as described in this prospectus
- redemptions made in connection with a return of excess contributions from an IRA account
- redemptions made as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code
- redemptions made to pay Baird fees, but only if the redemption is initiated by Baird

- shares acquired through a Right of Reinstatement (as defined above)

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**Stifel, Nicolaus & Co, Incorporated (Stifel)**

**Front-end sales charge waivers on Class A shares purchased through Stifel**

Shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through a Stifel platform or account may purchase Class A shares at NAV without payment of a sales charge as follows:

- Class C shares that are no longer subject to a CDSC and are converted to Class A shares of the same fund pursuant to Stifel's policies and procedures.

# For More Information

## BNY Mellon High Yield Fund

### A series of BNY Mellon Investment Funds III

**More information on this fund is available free upon request, including the following:**

#### **Annual/Semi-Annual Report and Financial Statements**

The fund's annual and semi-annual reports describe the fund's performance and recent market conditions, economic trends and fund strategies that significantly affected the fund's performance during the period covered by the report. The fund's Form N-CSR contains the fund's financial statements and lists the fund's portfolio holdings. The fund's most recent annual and semi-annual reports and other information, such as the fund's financial statements, are available at [www.bny.com/investments](http://www.bny.com/investments).

#### **Statement of Additional Information (SAI)**

The SAI provides more details about the fund and its policies. A current SAI is available at [www.bny.com/investments](http://www.bny.com/investments) and is on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The SAI, as amended or supplemented from time to time, is incorporated by reference (and is legally considered part of this prospectus).

#### **Portfolio Holdings**

The fund generally discloses, at [www.bny.com/investments](http://www.bny.com/investments), (1) complete portfolio holdings as of each month-end with a one month lag; (2) top 10 holdings as of each month-end with a 10-day lag; and (3) from time to time, certain security-specific performance attribution data as of a month-end, with a 10-day lag. From time to time the fund may make available certain portfolio characteristics, such as allocations, performance- and risk-related statistics, portfolio-level statistics and non-security specific attribution analyses, on request. The fund's portfolio holdings will remain on the website for a period of six months and any security-specific performance attribution data will remain on the website for varying periods up to six months, provided that portfolio holdings will remain until the fund files its Form N-PORT or Form N-CSR for the period that includes the dates of the posted holdings.

A complete description of the fund's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of the fund's portfolio securities is available in the fund's SAI and at [www.bny.com/investments](http://www.bny.com/investments).

#### **To Obtain Information**

**By telephone.** Call 1-800-373-9387 (inside the U.S. only)

**By mail.**

The BNY Mellon Family of Funds  
144 Glenn Curtiss Boulevard  
Uniondale, NY 11556-0144

**By E-mail.** Send your request to [info@bny.com](mailto:info@bny.com)

**On the Internet.** Certain fund documents can be viewed online or downloaded from: [www.bny.com/investments](http://www.bny.com/investments)

Reports and other information about the fund are available on the EDGAR Database on the SEC's website at: <http://www.sec.gov>, and that copies of this information may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following email address: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov).

This prospectus does not constitute an offer or solicitation in any state or jurisdiction in which, or to any person to whom, such offering or solicitation may not lawfully be made.

SEC file number: 811-00524